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# 1983 HISTORY



*HAYWOOD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION*  
*NORTH CAROLINA*

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# INDEX

HAYWOOD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION . . . . .	3	HIGH STREET . . . . .	63
CHURCHES:		JAMES CHAPEL . . . . .	65
ALLENS CREEK . . . . .	7	LAKE JUNALUSKA, FIRST . . . . .	67
ANTIOCH . . . . .	9	LAUREL GROVE . . . . .	69
BARBERVILLE . . . . .	11	LIBERTY . . . . .	71
BEAVERDAM . . . . .	13	LONG BARNCH . . . . .	73
BELMONT . . . . .	15	MAGGIE, FIRST . . . . .	75
BETHEL . . . . .	17	MEADOW GROVE . . . . .	77
BEULAH . . . . .	19	MOUNT ZION . . . . .	79
BURNETTE COVE . . . . .	21	NINEVAH . . . . .	81
BURNETTE SIDING . . . . .	23	NORTH CANTON . . . . .	83
CALVARY . . . . .	25	NORTH HAZELWOOD . . . . .	85
CAMP BRANCH . . . . .	27	OAK GROVE . . . . .	87
CANTON, FIRST . . . . .	29	PANTHER CREEK . . . . .	89
CLYDE, FIRST . . . . .	31	PLEASANT BALSAM . . . . .	91
COVE CREEK . . . . .	33	RATCLIFFE COVE . . . . .	93
CRABTREE . . . . .	35	RED BANK . . . . .	95
CRESTVIEW . . . . .	37	RICHLAND . . . . .	97
DELLWOOD . . . . .	39	RIVERSIDE . . . . .	99
DUTCH COVE . . . . .	41	ROCK HILL . . . . .	101
EAST CANTON . . . . .	43	ROCK SPRINGS . . . . .	103
EAST FORK . . . . .	45	ROCKY FACE . . . . .	105
EAST WAYNESVILLE . . . . .	47	SPRING HILL . . . . .	107
EMMANUEL . . . . .	49	SUNNY POINT . . . . .	109
FAIRVIEW . . . . .	51	VICTORY . . . . .	111
FINES CREEK MEMORIAL . . . . .	53	WAYNESVILLE, FIRST . . . . .	113
GRANDVIEW . . . . .	55	WELCOME HILL . . . . .	115
GREEN VALLEY . . . . .	57	WEST CANTON . . . . .	117
HAZELWOOD, FIRST . . . . .	59	WHITE OAK . . . . .	119
HEMPHILL . . . . .	61	WOODLAND . . . . .	121

# HAYWOOD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The year 1886 is a memorable one for Haywood Baptists. It was that year on August 14, that fourteen Baptist Churches of Haywood were dismissed from the Tuckaseegee Association to form the Haywood Association. Then on September 23-26 the delegates from these churches met at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, now First Baptist Church of Clyde, for the purpose of organizing an association. The name adopted was Haywood Association with the Rev. R. A. Sentelle as the first elected moderator. The new association held its first annual meeting the next year with the Rock Spring Baptist Church, and took stock of itself and its accomplishments. The new association had grown to 16 churches with a membership of 1154. Sunday School attendance was reported as 995. The total given to missions that year was \$163.40, and the total pastors salaries was reported as being \$968.

Until the organizing of the Haywood Association the existing churches belonged to neighboring associations: Holston, in Tennessee, French Broad, and later Tuckaseegee. Today there are 58 Baptist Churches in the Haywood Association.

Some of the early churches were:

Locust Old Field (Canton First)	1803	Mount Zion	1872
Crabtree	1814	East Fork	1874
Waynesville, First	1823	Antioch	1875
Bethel	1845	Pleasant Balsam	1879
Jonathan (Dellwood)	1848	Liberty (Allens Creek)	1883
Cove Creek	1860	Rock Spring	1884
Pleasant Hill (Clyde First)	1864	The fourteenth church was Friendship	1866-1892

The names of the other churches and when they were organized may be found in the history of the individual churches.

This period produced some outstanding leaders who led the churches in making great progress in the Lord's work. Some of these leaders were: Humprey Posey, R. A. Sentelle, M. C. Compton, Adam Corn, William Haynes, John Haynes, Thomas Henson, C. B. Mingus, D. B. Nelson, and E. D. Brendle. For something about each of these see the biographical sketches by Thomas Erwin.

The association continued to make progress, helping the churches in the promotion of mission projects, and cooperation with each other. An annual associational meeting was held and quarterly meetings rotated among the churches. Until 1939 promotion was done by the associational moderator, the Executive committee, and by visiting workers from the different boards and state institutions. Some of the pastors and leaders felt a need for someone to coordinate the promotion of associational, state, and south wide missions, therefore, in early 1939 an associational missionary was elected, and took office April of that year. The Rev. Frank Leatherwood was elected as the first missionary. He served on a half time basis with his salary being paid jointly by the association and the state.

Those who have served as associational missionary, name later changed to Director of missions, are:

Frank Leatherwood	1939-42	J. Boyd Horton	1957-61
Madge Lewis	1942-44	Wayne Sorrells	1961-63
Gretchen Johnson	1945-47	Leland Royster	1963-77
Daphne Boone	1947-49	Lloyd Fish	1977-78
Elmer Greene	1949-56	Claude Conard	1978-

By 1954 many associational leaders and pastors felt that a home for the director of missions was needed. Hence, a building committee was appointed to select and purchase a lot, and to make plans to build. Instead the committee recommended that a beautiful home on Jones Cove Road be purchased, which was done for a purchase price of \$16,000. The Rev. Elmer Greene and family were the first to live in the new home. This home was sold in 1960 for \$18,500, and a new home on Leatherwood Street in Waynesville was bought for \$21,000. In 1983 this home was sold to the Rev. Claude Conard for \$58,000, and the Director of Missions was given a housing allowance.

The year of 1972 was a memorable one in the Haywood Association, because the prayers of many Christians in Western North Carolina were answered when the state decided to locate a children's home in Haywood. A site in Jones Cove was chosen and ground breaking ceremony was held October 10, 1971, and the cottages were built in 1972. One of these cottages was named the Haywood cottage because the churches of the association raised enough money to build and furnish it. Ground breaking for

the Haywood Cottage was held April 23, 1972.

The associational year of 1980-81 was a great year for the growth of the association. For sometime leaders of the association had planned for an associational Baptist Center building. Plans were first suggested and promoted by Rev. Leland Royster, and then by the Rev. Claude Conard, present Director of Missions.

The building committee led by the Rev. Davis Plemmons presented plans to the Executive Board, which approved them and presented them to the annual meeting of the association which was held at the Dutch Cove Baptist Church, October 1980. The association voted to proceed with construction on a lot which it owned. The property is located across from the Haywood County Hospital. Ground breaking ceremonies were held on the grounds March 15, 1981. Construction was completed, and dedication service was held April 18, 1982. Total cost of the building was around \$200,000.

Some outstanding leaders of the association in more recent years have been: William (Bill) Pruett, R. P. McCracken, C. L. (Kay) Allen, Thomas Erwin, Oder Burnette, and Pete Hicks.

#### MODERATORS OF THE HAYWOOD ASSOCIATION SINCE 1886:

R. A. Sentelle, 1886-92; 1900-04	C. H. Greene, 1945-46	Carl Greene, 1966
George Wharton, 1892-96	Doyle Miller, 1947	Frank Reed, 1967-68
M. C. Compton, 1897-99	T. H. Parris, 1948	W. L. Pearson, 1969-70
W. T. Crawford, 1905	M. L. Lewis, 1949-50	Frank Anderson, 1971
W. H. Woodall, 1906-1912	Ben Lee Ray, 1951-52	Ray Justice, 1972
John C. Bennett, 1913-15	Horace Smith, 1953-54	Paul Lack, 1973-74
J. H. Haynes, 1916-23	T. E. Robinette, 1955-56	F. G. Barnhill, 1975-76
L. B. White, 1924	Gay Chambers, 1957-58	Carl J. Presnell, 1977-78
R. P. McCracken, 1925-30	James Morgan, 1959-60	J. Lloyd Wolfe, 1979
W. G. Byers, 1931-35	W. Thomas Lane, 1961-62	Jarvis Brock, 1980-81
Frank Leatherwood, 1936-42	W. L. Sorrells, 1963	Michael Simmons, 1982
H. G. Hammett, 1943-44	Frank Hopkins, 1964-65	Virgil Holloway, 1983





## ALLENS CREEK

Allens Creek Baptist Church was organized in 1883 in an old house that stood near the home of R. O. Allen. It continued to meet in this old building for some time. We do not have the names of charter members nor names of organizing presbytery. The name the church took at first was Liberty Baptist Church. The first pastor was Rev. Ephraim Norris. It joined the Tuckaseegee Association in Macon County in 1883. Rev. Norris served 1883-84. The church was represented in the Association in 1885 but no pastor was listed. In 1886 the Association met with Sugar Fork Baptist Church in Macon and Liberty Baptist Church took the name of Allens Baptist Church with Rev. A. B. Henson pastor. This was the last meeting of the Haywood churches with Tuckaseegee. On the third day, August 14, fourteen churches of Haywood were dismissed to form an association. These churches formed the Haywood Baptist Association at Pleasant Hill (Clyde) the following September 23-26.

The church went by the name Allens through 1899. Pastor's serving until 1900 were as follows: A. B. Henson 1886-1887, W. W. Wells 1888, M. C. Compton 1889-92, A. B. Henson 1893-95, M. R. N. Caldwell 1896-99.

In 1900 the church took its new name ALLENS CREEK with J. M. Haynes as pastor. Pastors following this date were: M. R. N. Caldwell 1901, W. M. Pruett 1902-1907, James R. Liner 1908, W. M. Pruett recalled 1909-1915, John C. Bennett 1915-1917. A. V. Joiner, pastor of Waynesville, First was pastor in 1918 preaching in the afternoons. No letter sent to Association in 1919. Wiley Green 1920, Hyman Hyde 1921, W. M. Pruett, third call, 1922 till May 22, 1924. Bro. Pruett said the pastorate at Allens Creek paid him the best salary he ever made. W. B. Robinson 1924-25. John C. Bennett August 1925-May 1926, John Stanbury June 1926, served four months. C. L. Allen (Kay) January 1927-July 1929, M. L. Hooper 1929-30, C. L. Allen, second call, 1930-August 1933. Thomas Erwin 1933-September 1936, Oder Burnett 1936-1939. Thomas Erwin, second call 1939-1940, W. L. (Bill) Sorrells 1940-1944. In June 1945-Thomas Erwin was called third time and served until August 1950. Gordon Scruggs 1950-51, C. D. Sawyer 1951-1955. Otto Parham 1955-1961. R. M. Heavner served 1961-

1963, C. D. Sawyer called second time and served until 1967. Carl Presnell became pastor in 1967 and is serving now in 1976.

A lot of expansion has been made during the life of the church. The organizing congregation worshiped in the first building until 1914 when a new building was started on the present site. This structure was a framed, weatherboarded building seating 250. Several class rooms were added and a parsonage was bought. An educational building of brick was erected in 1948 containing 22 class rooms, rest rooms, heating plant and small auditorium. This was paid for without indebtedness. The present sanctuary was built during the first pastorate of C. D. Sawyer. The Luther Allen property was purchased and in 1968 the present parsonage was built. The first pastor to occupy it was Carl Presnell.

When Allens Creek entered Tuckaseigee in 1884 the membership was 46. The membership in 1975 is reported 1,285. Present average attendance in Sunday School is 450. The present value of the church property is \$485,000.

Compiled, April 1976 by Thomas Erwin, C. L. Allen

#### UPDATE, 1981

1977-78 Carpeted floor of auditorium. 1978 ordained Pete Barns to serve in Washington.

1979, August 19, ordained Jerry Ensley.

1980 January 6 held note burning service, the church is now debt free.

1981 padded pews, installed sound system, remodeled fellowship hall. On May 27 ordained William R. (Rusty) Rector.

1981-82 Church sent group on mission tour to Prociuous, West Virginia.

1982 Installed ceiling fans and 8" insulation as energy saver and a new steeple at the cost of \$12,000.00.

1983 Celebrated Centennial August 1-7. In February of same called Gerald Edmund Murphy as Minister of Music and Youth.

## ANTIOCH

Early in 1875 about twenty people met in an old school house known as the Crawford School House near the present Antioch Baptist Church and organized the church. The name ANTIOCH was suggested by W. H. Coner in memory of a church in the New Testament by that name.

The men in the organizing presbytery were C. B. Mingus, Pastor of Locust Old Fields, William Haynes, W. H. Coner, and Calvin Williams. We are not sure of who were all the charter members, some were as follows: J. M. Crawford, Adaline Crawford, Jerry Green, James F. Murray, Joseph Chambers, Elizabeth Chambers, Joseph Hollifield, Mariah Murray, P. P. Crawford, Elizabeth Morrow, Harriett Bryson.

The first pastor was William Haynes. The first Clerk, James F. Murray, served until his death in 1904, 29 years.

Antioch joined Tuckaseegee Association in 1875 with twenty-three members and William Haynes was pastor. The church is listed in Tuckaseegee in 1876-1879 with no pastor. In 1880 the pastor was Elijah Allison, 1881-82 P. R. Young, 1883 no pastor, 1884 A. B. Thomas, 1885 no pastor.

Antioch was one of the churches joining the newly organized Haywood Baptist Association in 1886 with A. B. Henson pastor, 1887 W. W. Wells. 1888-1890 M. C. Compton. Following is a list of pastors from 1890 through 1975: 1891 E. R. Treadway, 1892 no pastor, 1893-1898 J. M. Haynes, 1899 T. Frank Arrington, 1900-1906 no pastors listed but probably D. C. Davis, 1907-1915 D. C. Davis, 1917 W. A. Hall, 1918-1924 D. C. Davis, 1925 B. N. Rogers, 1926-1930 D. C. Davis, 1931-38 Forest Ferguson, 1939 Claude Grogan, 1940-42 Jarvis Underwood, 1943 Jarvis Teague, 1944 Forest Ferguson, 1945 Thomas Erwin for a few months, 1946 Gay Chambers, 1947 no pastor, 1948-50 L. J. Rogers, Sr., 1951-52 Jarvis Underwood, 1953 Frank Early, 1954-62 M. H. Raby, 1963-69 Jarvis Teague, 1970 Jesse Hollingsworth, 1971-76 Jarvis Teague.

The first church house at Antioch was built in 1887 and dedicated in 1889. In 1963 much improvements were carried out on the building and enlarging it and the parking lot.

Compiled and revised April 1976, Thomas Erwin

Update 1981:

Antioch had been planning and saving for a new building, in 1977 plans were completed and work began. During the 1978-79 associational year the old sanctuary was torn down to make room for the new structure which contained an auditorium that would seat approximately 225 persons, an assembly room and kitchen as well as about 15 classrooms in the complete building. On May 17, 1981 the new building was dedicated and pastor, Rev. Jarvis Teague baptized 17 persons. The Church is experiencing a continuing revival. Forty one members have been added to the church in the last 15 months. 1981, February 8 presented Pastor Jarvis Teague a new Buick Skylark automobile. On Sept. 27 ordained Robert Q. Woody to become pastor at Fines Creek Memorial. , 1983 , May 22 Honored Rev. Jarvis Teague for 20 years as their pastor.

## BARBERVILLE

In the early nineteen twenties it was realized that a Baptist Sunday School was needed in the section between Dellwood and Waynesville. Mrs. R. N. Barber, Sr. and some other ladies organized a Sunday School in the home of Mrs. R. N. Barber. The group began to grow rapidly and soon it was evident that a larger place was needed. The Barbers owned an old store building on the side of the road near the cemetery and they agreed to let it be used for the Lord's work. Sunday School and worship services were carried on in the old store building for a number of years. In 1925 a Baptist church was organized and called Barberville Baptist Church. The Rev. William Pruitt was called as the first pastor.

As the church continued to grow, a Woman's Missionary Union was organized. Mrs. B. H. Burress was the first W.M.U. president and served for several years. The church soon outgrew the old store building, and it was seen that a larger place was needed. The ladies began to make quilts, pillow cases, aprons, crocheted bedspreads, etc. to earn money to buy the lot where the building now stands. The first building on the lot was built of field stone in 1936 during the pastorate of Rev. C. L. Allen. After a time the ladies bought another lot for parking. Soon the church bought more land from Mr. Ned Burress and Mrs. Ruby Burgess.

The church has experienced great growth in recent years. In 1963 the present sanctuary, accommodating about seven hundred, was erected, and the first service in it was held by the pastor, G. W. Jameson, in January of 1963. Two large educational buildings have been added, including facilities for a Day Care School.

The membership has grown from a small group in the twenties to a grand total of 1,000. It is a full cooperating Southern Baptist Church with 540 in Sunday School.

Pastors that served the church from its beginning are as follows: William Pruitt 1925, Claude Grogan 1926-27, J. H. Hammett 1928-29, no pastor 1930, B. B. Caldwell 1931-33, Frank Leatherwood 1934-35, C. L. (Kay) Allen 1936-38, Avery Peek 1939-41, Eugene Moore 1942, J. H. Christie 1943, Jarvis Underwood 1944-45, Avery Peek 1946-49, Jarvis Brock 1950-54, no pastor 1955 Paul Mull 1956, F. W. Gales 1957-59, J. G. Miller 1960-61, W. N. Reece 1962, G. W. Jameson 1963-76.

Compiled in May 1976, Thomas Erwin

UPDATE 1981:

1976-77 Built a picnic shed, remodeled the nursery, carpeted the Sunday School building, and bought a new organ.

1977-78 Renovated the auditorium

1980 Renovated the kitchen, enlarged restroom facilities, and established a first aid completely equipped including hospital bed.

1981 Recarpeted the auditorium and put on a new roof. Ordained James Green.

1982 Enclosed breezeway between auditorium and educational building, participated with Crestview and Belmont in a mission tour to Welch, West Virginia.



## BEAVERDAM

On May 1, 1931, a meeting was held in the Beaverdam Community for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. The presbytery consisted of W. T. McFalls, R. T. Reynolds, and P. C. Hicks. Four people presented letters for membership but their names are not recorded. Among the first members recorded were: George Sutton, Boyd Burress, Oscar Scott, Charlie Mortt, H. P. Scott, and Wheeler Scott. The name Beaverdam Missionary Baptist Church was adopted.

The church purchased an old school building and a tract of land, January 1, 1932, from the Haywood County Board of Education for \$500.00. The present church is on the same property. A service of dedication was held September 2, 1934 for property and church building. In 1935 the church voted to use part of the property for a cemetery, in August the church elected the first delegates to the Haywood Baptist Association, and in September the church held its first revival with twelve souls saved.

On May 6, 1939 Weaver Elliott was ordained to preach and September 19, 1943 H. E. Benfield, then on May 21, 1944 Angus Worley was ordained.

On March 19, 1942 a Building Committee was elected to finish the first parsonage. On September 16, 1950 a Building Committee was elected for the purpose of building a new church. On August 1, 1951 the church voted to tear down the old school building which had served as its meeting place and build a new rock structure. On August 6, 1951 the church borrowed \$1,500.00 to build and on October 2, 1951 they borrowed \$3,500.00 to complete the church. Between 1955 and 1960 the parsonage was completed also the basement rooms of the church. On February 26, 1966 Doug Worley was ordained to the ministry, and on July 1, 1973 the church voted to buy a bus. September 2, 1974 the membership voted to build a recreation shed, on March 19, 1972 church voted to build a new sanctuary and renovate the old one into class rooms. September 2, 1974 ground breaking was held. January 1, 1975 church borrowed \$20,000.00. Total cost of new building and renovation was \$43,143.00. The first service held in it was April 27, 1975. Final mortgage payment made on March 27, 1979 and the church is debt free.

During 1979 -81, the pastorate of Thomas C. Trantham the church voted to give 4% of its offering to missions. The church was blessed and voted to increase their

mission commitment to 10% which would be divided as follows: 2% Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions; 2% Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions; 2% Associational Missions; 2% Fruitland Bible Institute and 2% to Broyhill Children's Home. The church learned that you cannot out-give the Lord and took another step of faith and on February 10, 1982 it voted to support a full-time pastor and on March 14, 1982 called Ray Turpin of Gillsville, Ga. as that first pastor.

The membership of Beaverdam Baptist Church recognizes the hand of God working in and through Christians to provide a place of worship and growth in the community.

Pastors serving from the beginning are as follows: No exact date W. T. McFalls, 1935 Perry Sprinkle, 1936 Fate McElrath, 1938 J. F. Burrell, 1939 Fate McElrath, 1940 Perry Sprinkle, Dec. 1941-August 1942 Bill (W.L.) Sorrells, 1942-43 Sherman Worley, 1943-44 Ervin Scott, Aug. 1944-Nov. 1944 H. E. Benfield, 1944-47 L. Jay Rogers, 1947-49 Vinson Plemmons 1949-50 T. M. Orr, 1950-July 1951 Vinson Plemmons, Aug 1951 Coleman Brown til April 1955, May 1955-1960 J. W. Jackson, Dec. 31 1960 Bobby Gibson elected, Jan 12, 1964-Aug. 22, 1976 Jack Scott, Oct. 1976 T. M. Gibson until May 15, 1979, June 17, 1979 Tommy Trantham until Nov. 29, 1981. March 14, 1982 church called Ray Turpin.

Compiled 1982 by Sue Haney

1983, May 30 Rev. Ray Turpin resigned as pastor.

## BELMONT

The first record we have of Belmont Baptist Church in Haywood Associational minutes is in 1901. That minutes states that Belmont was organized in 1900. Various associational minutes give a variety of years as the time of founding. The minutes of 1949-1965 give the founding date as 1887, with the exception of 1949-1957 giving the date of founding as 1889. The 1900 date seems to be correct.

Belmont Church entered the Association in 1901 at the meeting August 22-25 at Crabtree with R. A. Sentell, Moderator appointing a committee consisting of Rev. C. M. Billings, pastor of Waynesville, First, Rev. J. R. Liner, and G. W. Davis to examine the credentials of Belmont. The committee reported favorable and Belmont was received into the Association August 22, 1901. Rev. D. C. (Uncle Doug) Davis was pastor and Greene Beasley was Sunday School Superintendent. Church property was valued at \$400.00, membership was 20 with 14 of this number being ladies. Sunday School enrollment totaled 50 with 40 average attendance. They were using Union Literature published by the American Sunday School Union of Philadelphia. It was not uncommon back then for small Sunday Schools to use Union literature but still be cooperating Baptists in other activities. We might add that the cost of literature that year was \$1.00.

Belmont has not been consistently represented in the minutes of the Haywood Baptist Association, not because it was not functioning as a church, but more because for some reason a letter was not sent. It appears in the minutes of 1902-1904, 1925, 1931, 1932-33 with Rev. Forest Ferguson as pastor and the salary was \$70.00.

Due to the irregularity of letters sent to the Association all pastors may not be listed in the following list. 1901 D. C. Davis, 1925 D. C. Davis, 1932-33 Forest Ferguson, 1941 Ben C. Fugate, 1946-49 M. H. Raby, 1950 R. F. Wells, 1965 Carl Presnell, 1962 Carl Chastain, 1968-71 Billy Lee, 1972-74 Carl Chastain, 1975-76 Rex Collins.

In 1975 the church did considerable improvements by erecting a new building.

Compiled January 26, 1977 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE 1981:

1976-77 Bought a piano, carpeted the floors, drilled a well and installed rest rooms.

1979-80 poured concrete walks

1977-80 Hugh Moore served as pastor. Church became debt free.

1981 Called Ray Sharpe as pastor, purchased new pews and installed a new steeple.

1982 Participated with Barberville and Crestview in an Associational Missions Tour project to Welch, West Virginia.

## BETHEL

Prior to 1834, there were no organized churches in Pigeon Valley. The people were Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and a few Episcopalians. There was no meeting house or school house. On March 7, 1838, Elijah Deaver, Sr. deeded one and three-fourths acres of land to Ninian Edmonston, Baptist; Elijah Deaver, Jr., Presbyterian; and Joseph Cathey, Methodist; commissioners which had been selected at a mass meeting of the citizens of Bethel community. The land was for the use of the neighborhood "including a house now begun for a school house", Book D. Page 66, Register of Deeds.

On Thursday, May 17, 1838, the people of the various faiths met in a body and drew up plans for erecting a "common meeting house" to be a Union church. The same commissioners were used. Each one representing his own denomination was to raise funds. The commissioners were instructed to begin building as soon as the money was collected. This "common meeting house" was the only place of worship for the people until each denomination built a church of its own. The Baptists bought land from W. S. Terrell March 15, 1890 and built their church house, completing it June 16, 1892.

Bethel Baptist Church, fourth in the county, was organized Friday, May 23, 1845 with the membership coming from Locust Old Fields or Waynesville churches. The presbytery consisted of Rev. John Haynes, Rev. Thomas Henson, and Rev. William Haynes. The organization was sponsored by Locust Old Fields. Charter members were as follows: Joseph Dawson, Malinda Dawson, Elijah Deaver, Sr., Nathan Deaver, Adra Deaver, Enoch Reece, S. Burton Rhodes, John Slate, Anna Slate, Mary Edmonston, Elizabeth Blaylock, Juliet Blaylock, Margaret Mehaffey, Hannah Cathey, Sara Ann Cathey, and two blacks - Benjamin Deaver and Hannah Deaver. These voted to organize a church and call it BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH. The first pastor was Rev. John Haynes.

Bethel, with 24 members, entered the Tuckaseegee Association when it met with Spring Creek Baptist Church on August 29-September 1, 1845. John Haynes was pastor and messengers were Nathan Deaver and Enoch Reece. In 1886 Bethel, along with other churches were dismissed to form Haywood Baptist Association. The Association met with Bethel in 1890 while they were still meeting in the "common meeting house". A Baptist Church was built and completed June 16, 1892.

Bethel has sent four men into the ministry, R. A. Sentelle and Milas C. Compton, both ordained Saturday, July 27, 1878, Avery Peek ordained Sunday, June 20, 1937, and Danny Long ordained Sunday, November 23, 1976.

The church membership in 1901 was 49 and the pastor, J. M. Haynes, made a salary of \$20.00 per year. Gifts were State Missions \$3.76, Foreign Missions \$3.66. and Associational Missions \$.48.

Bethel has occupied three houses of worship. During the pastorate of Calvin Bissett, 1948-55, a new building was erected at the present site on land given by Mr. and Mrs. Corbit Wright. During the pastorate of Thomas Erwin, 1962-76, the total indebtedness was paid off and a building fund begun. In 1967 improvements were made on the parking lot and three acres of land purchased from Russell heirs. The Wrights gave additional land between the parsonage and Bird Creek for a picnic shed in 1975.

Following is a list of pastors from the beginning: 1845-51 John Haynes, 1852-54 Thomas Henson, 1855-56 no records, 1857-65 C. B. Mingus, 1966 D. B. Nelson, 1867- J. A. Hagaman, 1868 John Ammons, 1869 Pendleton Holtzclaw, 1870 C. B. Mingus, 1871-77 William Haynes, 1878 Elijah Allison, 1879 Milas C. Compton, 1880 R. A. Sentelle, 1881-83 Milas C. Compton, 1884 R. A. Sentelle, 1885 A. B. Thomas, 1886 R. A. Sentelle, 1887 John V. Reece, 1888 R. A. Sentelle, 1889-90 J. M. Haynes, 1891 E. E. Blount, 1892 A. B. Thomas, 1893 E. E. Blount, 1894-95 R. A. Sentelle, 1896-97 no records, 1898 R. A. Sentelle, 1899 Elijah Allison, 1900-01 J. M. Haynes, 1902-03 no pastor listed, 1904 to May 1934 R. A. Sentelle, 1934-36 J. M. Woodard, 1937-40 Thomas Erwin, 1941-43 Avery Peek, 1944-47 J. Howard Hall, 1948-55 Calvin Bissett, 1955-57 Thomas Erwin, 1957-62 Robert Clark, 1962-76 Thomas Erwin, 1976-77 Thomas C. Trantham.

Compiled May, 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981:

1979, September 9 called Roy Kilby as pastor.

1980 purchased a mobile home to use for Sunday School space.

1982 dedication of new facilities along with renovation of auditorium.



## BEULAH

Beulah Baptist Church was first organized as a division from West Canton Baptist Church. It was organized February 4, 1941 and built the church building very soon thereafter at a total cost of \$2,285.00. The church was named "Beulah" by Rev. Tate McElrath.

There were fourteen charter members at the beginning. The first deacons were Raymond Wells, Grover Moore, Andy McGee, Jack Hipps, R. H. Galloway, Roy Hampton, and Virgil McClure.

The church entered the Haywood Baptist Association on one year's probation, as the rule was, on the 18th day of August, 1948, which was the second day of the Association in the Waynesville First Baptist Church. The report of the Credentials Committee was read by Rev. Gay Chambers in the afternoon session. The church was fully received into the Association on August 24, 1949. The pastor was Rev. Colman Brown. The pastor in 1948, while the church was on probation, was Rev. Wesley Mehaffey. Beulah has been represented every year in the Association since.

In 1949, during the pastorate of Rev. Brown, a pastorium was built near the church.

The old church house was torn down in 1967 when a new educational building was erected. This new building is a three-story, departmental Sunday School building which will serve to take care of present expanding movements. Total value of this new brick building is \$80,000.00. The bond debt was paid off in 1978. A new auditorium will be built later.

The following pastors have served the church: Rev. Lucius Rogers, Ham Hicks, Wesley Mehaffey, James Kirkpatrick, Colman V. Brown, F. C. Hicks, Bryce Wright, E. C. Revis, J. W. Myers, D. E. Gowen, Bennett Walker, Claude Conard and Joe Medford 1975 who is now serving.

Compiled July 1976 by Thomas Erwin



## BURNETTE COVE

Burnette Cove Baptist Church was conceived in the hearts of the Baptist people who composed a part of the membership of the old Meadow Grove Union Church on the Pisgah Highway below Cruso. A move was made in the latter part of 1937 to break away from Meadow Grove and organize a missionary Baptist Church. The church was not organized at that time, but steps were taken to secure land and to erect a house of worship.

Fred Brookshire provided a little congregation with a plot of ground where the present building stands. He received a token price of ten dollars for the land. Clinton C. Burnette, Fred Brookshire, and Luke Smith acted as a building committee and a house of worship was erected. As soon as the building was ready for services the little congregation of Baptists started holding services in it. Immediately steps were taken to organize a Baptist church which would be affiliated with the Haywood Baptist Association and both conventions. On July 23, 1938 the church was organized. The presbytery that sat for the organization was composed of W. G. Byers, Moderator, Oder Burnette, Clerk, John C. Sharp, Isaac M. Grogan, Lucius Rogers, Will Pharr, Lewis Rogers, James Rogers, Claude Grogan, and T. C. Heatherly. The charter members were Mrs. Sara Burnette, Elmer Burnett, Mrs. May Burnette, Fred Brookshire, Clinton C. Burnette, Mrs. Inez Burnette, Geneva Burnette, Mrs. Alma Brookshire, John Heatherly, Florence Heatherly, Arthur Kuykendall, Mrs. Etta Kuykendall, Pink Revis, Delia Revis, Evelyn Revis, Ray Revis, Luke Smith, and Cora Smith. The first pastor was Lucius Rogers. The first deacons were Arthur Kuykendall, and Fred Brookshire. The first church clerk was Clinton C. Burnette.

The following pastors have served: 1938-39 L. J. Rogers, 1940 Neil Stepp, 1941 C. C. Grogan, 1942-43 Joe Williams, 1944 B. N. Rogers, 1945 C. L. Allen, 1946-47 Will Pharr, 1948-50 R. R. Mehaffey, 1951-52 B. N. Rogers, 1953-54 Paul Grogan, 1954-56 Bobby Trull, 1956-57 Thomas Lamb, 1957-59 Joe Williams, 1959-60 Bobby Trull, 1961-66 Ted Reeves, 1967-68 James D. Grasty, 1969-76 Jay Rogers.

Compiled in July 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981-83 PASTORS:

1977-79 Billy Lee; 1979-83 James Estep



## BURNETTE SIDING

Burnette Siding Baptist Church was organized about 1914 according to the best information available. At that time the lumber companies were doing a great deal of work removing the timber at the head of West Fork of Pigeon. Great numbers of people were working in the timber and had made their homes at Sunburst and at Spruce at the head of the river at what is known as the Three Forks. Also many people lived between these two villages. There were Sunday schools and worship services being conducted at both Spruce and Sunburst. A house of worship had been built at Spruce, but it was union. The people at Sunburst had a good school house which was also used for church purposes. The Church of God people had a church at Sunburst. Burnette Siding was about half way between Spruce and Sunburst. It was only natural that the people around Burnette Siding (railroad station) would desire a house of worship. They pooled their funds and built a small church house and organized a Baptist Church about 1914. The church was very active and had several revivals and the membership grew. However, there was no effort made to get the church into the Association for several years. The first mention of Burnette Siding in the Haywood Baptist Associational minutes is 1927. The messengers from Burnette Siding that year were Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Rogers. Since that time the church has been represented at most of the Associational meetings. The membership of the church in 1927 was 45, Sunday School enrollment 65. The membership in 1962 was 38, Sunday School enrollment was 75. The membership in 1975 was 181. This little church has had a struggle because so many of the population moved away when the lumber industry went down. However they have continued to operate regardless of adversities. Burnette Siding has made great improvements recently by adding Sunday School rooms and building a picnic shed. It is a beautiful house in which to worship.

Several ministers have served as pastor since 1930. Prior to 1930, we note that B. N. Rogers was once pastor and also Thomas Erwin pastored the church in 1924 as his first pastorate. Others were: C. L. Allen, Marvin Mann, R. T. Reynolds, Will Massie, Neil Stepp, Lucius Rogers, Manuel Wyatt, B. N. Rogers, Joe Williams, and T. M. Gibson who became pastor in 1971 and is the present pastor.

Compiled July 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981-83 Van Greene, pastor





## CALVARY

Calvary Baptist Church began in the summer of 1918 when some children began meeting in the basement of the home of N. J. Roberts and playing Sunday School on Sunday afternoon. Interest grew until some parents of the children began to take notice and began to attend. By Christmas, it had become a real Sunday School with adults teaching.

These people gave a Christmas program that year. Dr. Pegram was the speaker. A small dwelling house was purchased for worship services at a cost of \$600. Three medical doctors of Canton, Dr. Pegram, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Reynolds, each gave \$25 to the project. Trustees selected to secure the property were Robert Deweese, Cora Roberts, Margaret Sutton, Herbert Head, and C. S. Smathers. On April 24, 1920 these Trustees secured from Robert and Polly Caldwell, a title to a house and lot at the junction of Fincher and Harkins Streets, now Spruce and Phillips Streets. A record is found in Book 56, page 143 of the Register of Deeds Office in Waynesville. The name adopted was Ferguson Town Union Church.

Rev. Wesley B. Sprinkle held a revival in the house in the spring of 1921. There were many professions and the Baptist people decided that it would be wise to organize a Baptist church to take care of the people to be baptized into some church. A Baptist church was organized April 22, 1921 with Rev. R. C. Campbell, pastor of Canton First Baptist Church as moderator. Charter members were R. H. Deweese, Mr. and Mrs. John Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Allen, R. M. Corn, Mollie Pardue, Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Powell Deweese, Pauline Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. George Sutton, Pearl Harkins, Nell Harkins, Ethel Phillips, Carrie Allen, and Lottie Allen.

The Church Covenant and Articles of Faith were read and adopted unanimously. The church was declared fully organized to transact business. The first business was to name the new church. The name chosen was East End Baptist Church. First officers were Rev. Wesley Sprinkle, pastor; R. M. Corn, Clerk; Fowell Deweese, Treasurer; H. P. Scott, R. H. Deweese, John F. Phillips, and Jasper Wright, Deacons. The above named trustees of Ferguson Town Union Church conveyed the property to the trustees of East End Baptist Church who were R. H. Deweese, M. J. Wright, J. F. Phillips, P. D. Deweese, and J. W. Sutton. This transaction was September 12, 1921, Book 60 page 435, Register of Deeds.

The new church voted at once to enter the Haywood Baptist Association which met at Spring Hill Baptist Church on October 20-21. Messengers were P. M. Corn and Bill Pruett.

In the summer of 1921, steps were taken to build a church house. In 1923 construction was started on a building in the form of a "T". It was a wood structure and consisted only of an auditorium. Sunday School classes met in different sections. Considerable debt was incurred and it was a struggle for the congregation. Osborne Lumber Yard had furnished the material and was very patient. The building was dedicated on Sunday, April 1929, debt free. Rev. Thomas Erwin was pastor. Attendance increased and Sunday School rooms were built under the building. This building served until 1954 when the congregation moved into the present beautiful structure. The cost was \$84,000. The building begun in the spring of 1954, completed in the autumn, was dedicated November 14, 1954.

The church has owned two parsonages. One built in 1940 and later sold. The present one built in 1946-47 at a cost of \$24,000. Rev. Edgar Stephens was the first occupant.

In 1937 the name was changed to East Canton Baptist Church. It entered the Associational minutes by that name until 1941 when it was changed to CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Six men have been ordained to the ministry as follows: Cardinus Green August 11, 1941, Howard Mann September 20, 1942, John Ralph Willis September 9, 1945, Fred Fore December 13, 1952, James Downs November 13, 1955, and John Ray Jamison September 4, 1957.

Serving the church as pastor: Wesley Sprinkle for 3 months of 1921, 1921 Bill Pruett, 1922 J. M. Haynes, 1923 Ham Hicks, 1924-26 Pete Hicks, 1927 R. R. (Bud) Mehaffey, 1928-29 Thomas Erwin, 1931-36 P. C. Hicks, 1937-38 Howard Hall, 1939 P. C. Hicks, 1941-43 Wesley Sprinkle, 1944 C. R. Upton, 1945-47 Doyle Miller, 1948-49 Edgar Stephens, 1950-58 Ben Lee Ray, 1958-62 Thomas Erwin, 1963-64 Glenn Ramsey, 1966 no pastor, 1967-74 W. L. Pearson, 1975 - 78 Bill Nelson.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1978 Ordained Alan Riley.

1979, September 30 called Max Wilson Smith as pastor.

1983 Called Christopher Winans as Director of Music and Youth.

## CAMP BRANCH

Camp Branch Baptist Church started as a mission sponsored by Allens Creek Baptist Church. Allens Creek took the initiative in calling a presbytery to organize the church. Rev. Bobby Trull had acted as pastor of the mission before it was organized into a church.

The members of the mission met Sunday, July 21, 1957 for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. The presbytery consisted of Thomas Erwin, Moderator; Otto Parham, pastor of Allens Creek; Gay Chambers, pastor of Ratcliffe Cove; J. R. Morgan, layman from Waynesville First; and J. Boyd Horton, Associational Missionary who was elected clerk of the presbytery.

The following were charter members of the new church: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Putnam, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Martin; Mr. and Mrs. Millard Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Coy Pruett, Mr. W. S. Hicks, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Haskett, Joe Haskett, Jr., Mrs. Ray Garwood, Mrs. Robert Moore, Mrs. Odell Nelson, Mr. John Pruett, Mrs. Lemuel Shepard, and Mr. and Mrs. Weldon McFalls.

The Articles of Faith and the Church Covenant were read and adopted. The name adopted was CAMP BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH.

The first pastor was Robert Parris who seems to have served only a short time. First deacons were Joe Haskett, Guy Martin, and Clyde Putnam, clerk was Mrs. Clyde Putnam.

The church applied that year for membership in the Haywood Baptist Association and was approved. Its name appears the first time in the Associational minutes in 1958 with C. L. Allen as pastor. Membership was 43. In 1959 membership was 53 and \$243.00 was given for missions.

Pastors serving are: 1957-60 C. L. Allen, 1960-62 Melvin Brooks, 1963-67 Albert Robinson, 1968 M. C. Wyatt, 1969-70 George Mehaffey 1971 Lee Secrest, 1972-74 Jesse Hollingsworth, and Dean Henderson was called in June 1976.

Compiled July 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

Dean Henderson served until .

1976-77 Church repainted the auditorium and built a picnic shed.



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CANTON

Organized as the Locust Old Field Baptist Church in 1803, the First Baptist Church of Canton is the oldest church in the Haywood Association, and is believed to be the first church West of Asheville. It is often referred to as the "Mother Church of the other Baptist Churches in the Association". Its first building was a little log building at what is now the Locust Field Cemetery, and was used both as a church and as a school building. As a matter of fact, the first public school in Haywood County was taught in this building.

Although few records remain of the early history of Locust Old Field we do know that the charter members numbered thirteen, and we know that eight of those members were: John Gooch, John Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Abel, Margaret Chambers, John Osborn, William Scott, and Erwin Brown.

Records show that the Locust Old Field Church joined the Holston Association August 2, 1804 and that it reported a membership of 33. Later the church joined the French Broad, the Newfound, the Tuckasee, and finally the Haywood Association.

In 1860 a new building was erected near the old one at the Locust Field Cemetery. In 1915 the congregation voted to relocate down town, so a site was purchased where the present plant stands. Here a beautiful brick building was erected and the name was changed to the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CANTON. In 1947, under the leadership of Rev. Horace Smith, the present educational building was erected, still in the pastorate of Rev. Smith the present sanctuary was dedicated.

From 1962-67 the Rev. Edwin Young was pastor, at which time two new pastoriums were purchased.

The growth and ministry of the church has been a steady one over the years, and the First Baptist Church of Canton continues to be a leader in its community and in the Haywood Association.

Although the early records are not available concerning the pastors, this church has been blessed with capable leadership throughout its ministry. Some of the later pastors are: Humphrey Posey - believed one of the first, 1853-88 C. B. Mingus, 1888-90 S. C. Owen, 1890-91 B. C. Buchanan, 1891-94 E. E. Blount, 1895-96 R. A. Sentelle, 1898

Rev. Hunt, 1899-1900 R. A. Sentelle, 1900-07 M. R. N. Caldwell, 1907-09 Luther Brown, 1909-10 Rev. Kesterson, 1910-12 J. D. Bowen, 1912-14 J. R. Owen, 1914-17 G. P. Hamrick, 1917-18 A. T. Simms, 1918-19 M. A. Adams, 1919-21 J. J. Johnson, 1921-25 R. C. Campbell, 1925-37 A. V. Joyner, 1937-44 H. K. Masteller, 1944-47 Rev. Kelley, 1947-62 Horace Smith, 1962-68 Edwin Young, 1968-78 James Langford, 1978-81 J. Michael Simmons.

During the pastorate of Dr. Simmons, 16 members went on a mission tour to Barbados. Also ordained Morris Jordan, Music Director, into the Gospel Ministry. In 1982 a \$75,000 energy saving project was completed, also a group went to West Virginia in cooperation with the Associational North Carolina-West Virginia Project.

Compiled 1983 Gay Chambers'

Miss Joy Rhodes was called as Interim Youth Director in February 1974. She was called as Youth Director and Outreach Secretary October 4, 1974. Later her name became Mrs. Patrick Jones and her title became Director of Youth and Church Activities.



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLYDE

The First Baptist Church of Clyde was organized on July 30, 1864 with twenty-five persons who brought their letters from the Locust Field Baptist Church (Canton, First). The presbytery was composed of C. B. Mingus, J. A. Hagaman, and William Crawford. After adopting the name of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church after the school-house in which they met, a church covenant and articles of Faith were chosen. The name Pleasant Hill Baptist became the name of the new church.

The following persons became charter members: Rebecca Anderson, Wilson Bradley, Elizabeth Bradley, Mrs. E. T. Baird, Sarah Byers, W. Carson, Syntha Carson, E. F. Connor, W. L. Connor, Mary Connor, J. M. Haynes, Clarinda Haynes, Mrs. Aveline Haynes, Mrs. E. E. Haynes, Mary Haynes, Mrs. F. C. Haynes, Mrs. L. A. Haynes, Elizabeth Ledbetter, Mary McCracken, Jackson Rogers, Mrs. A. A. Rogers, Elizabeth Green. There were also three black persons: Jack Smathers, Clancy Smathers, and Sylva Haynes.

Pleasant Hill took its place among the churches of Haywood and has been a leading church ever since. It was the seventh Baptist Church to be organized in the county. Only, Canton, Crabtree, Waynesville, Bethel, Jonathan (Dellwood, and Cove Creek.

Pleasant Hill joined the Tuckaseegee Association and remained in that Association until 1886 when the Haywood Association was organized.

The Clyde Church continued to meet on the "Hill" until 1885 when a new building was constructed down town on the present site. This building was built of planks. It served the congregation until 1924 when a modern brick building was erected. In 1955 the present educational building was built and in 1981 a new sanctuary was erected, giving Clyde First Baptist one of the finer plants in the county.

The name Pleasant Hill was retained until 1922 when it was changed to Clyde Baptist Church. About two years later the name FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLYDE was adopted.

The First Baptist Church of Clyde has continued to be a leader in benevolence and gifts to missions. The Church has had many able pastors during its history. The list follows: 1865-66 William Crawford, 1866-67 C. B. Mingus, 1867-71 Elijah Morgen, 1867-71 W. Hensley, 1871-76 Charley Green, 1876-89 C. B. Mingus, 1889-90 A. H. Mills, 1890-91 A. H. Sims, 1892-93 E. H. Elcunt, 1894 R. A. Sentelle, 1894-97 George Whorton, 1897 M. A. Adams, 1897-1903 Walter Wilkins, 1903-04 John Green, 1904-05 L. B. White,

1907-08 J. R. Green, 1908-11 F. B. Raymond, 1911-16 George Wharton, 1916-18 L. Q. Haynes,  
1918-22 L. E. White, 1922-24 Mays M. Barnett, 1924-35 R. P. McCracken, 1935-37 R. G. Mace,  
1938-41 W. M. Gerald, 1941-48 T. H. Farris, 1948-53 D. D. Gross, 1953-56 J. G. Goodwin,  
1957-70 James Morgan, 1970-78 Paul Lack, 1978- James F. Parham

Compiled February 1983 Gay Chambers

UPDATE: May 23, 1983 called Richard Hall Taylor as Director of Music and Youth.

## COVE CREEK

Cove Creek is one of the old churches of Haywood Baptist Association. We do not have records of its early beginnings, the exact date of organization or who was on the presbytery. At the time Cove Creek was organized all of Haywood Churches belonged to Tuckaseegee or Newfound Associations. We find in the minutes of the Tuckaseegee Association of 1860 the first mention of Cove Creek. The Association met that year with Locust Old Fields in Haywood. It moved about different years to Jackson, Macon or Haywood. In 1860 R. H. Moody was pastor of Cove Creek and also Crabtree. In the early history of the churches they were not as careful about keeping records or as careful about being in attendance at every Associational Meeting with letters giving activities being carried out in the churches. Often churches sent letters irregularly as has happened with Cove Creek. From the Associational Minutes we have the following pastors listed as serving Cove Creek: 1861 R. H. Moody, 1862 church was not represented, no Tuckaseegee minutes for 1863-65, probably due to the Civil War. 1866-70 W. Ensley, 1871-72 no listing, 1873 J. A. Rice, 1874 no letter, 1875 David Fisher, 1876-77 probably W. H. Connor, 1878 J. G. Mashburn, 1879 E. Allison, 1880 C. N. Case, 1881-82 J. G. Mashburn, 1883 no pastor, 1884 Pink Young, 1885 J. W. Hooker, 1886 W. W. Wells, 1887-89 Milas Compton. 1890-1892 E. R. Treadway was pastor. 1893 not represented, 1894-99 Frank Arrington, 1900 James Liner, 1901 Douglas Davis, 1902-1908 not represented in any of the associations. 1909 no pastor listed. 1910 W. M. Hall, 1911 George Whorton, 1912-13 Douglas Davis, 1914 not represented, 1915 J. C. Bennett, 1916 I. F. Moore, 1917-18 not represented, 1919 Douglas Davis. 1920-23 no letter sent to association. 1924-27 Yoder Davis, 1928-31 Douglas Davis, 1932-36 Forest Ferguson. 1937 not represented, 1938-39 P. C. Hicks, 1940-42 Doyle Miller. 1943 Eugene Moore, 1944 N. L. Stephens, 1945 Ben Fugate, 1946 Forest Ferguson, 1947 George Mehaffey, 1948-49 Dock Russell, 1950-59 Carl Cooke, 1960-62 Rufus Finger, 1963 Herman Pace, 1964-65 James Kirkpatrick, 1967-69 Don Miller, 1970-71 Charles Surrentt, 1972-74 Elmer Caldwell, 1975-76 Carl Chastain.

Cove Creek built an entirely new plant in 1965-66 and dedicated it September 18, 1966.

Compiled July 1966 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

1977-79 Fred Frady

1979 Church bought more land and paved the driveway and parking lot.

1980, Nov. 5 Called Jesse Hollingsworth as pastor.

1981 Voted to give 6% of offering dollar to Haywood Baptist Association bringing total missions giving to 12%. Began a church library.

1982 Upholstered pews.

## CRABTREE

The Crabtree Baptist Church is the second oldest Baptist church in Haywood County, having been founded in 1814 by residents of the community who were members of Locust Old Field Church in Canton. Early records were lost but there appears to have been 19 charter members. There is no record of the first pastor, but in 1815 the Crabtree Church joined the French Broad Association and Thomas McClure, John Patterson, and J. Bradshaw were the messengers to the Associational meeting.

The church seems to have grown steadily while in the French Broad Association. No records exist until 1829, when Crabtree resigned from French Broad Association and joined the Tuckaseegee Association in 1830. The church, at that time, listed 11 members. No further records are available until 1840. From 1840-1851, John Haynes was listed as pastor. In 1846, the membership was reported to be 80 with 24 baptisms.

On August 21, 1841, D. V. McCracken, Silas Kirkpatrick, Acton McCracken, John McCracken, and Samuel Ferguson, trustees of the church, secured land from Hiram McCracken where the little log building stood.

During this period of prosperity, Satan was busy also. A split developed and there was division and hard feelings. The regular group remained in the Tuckaseegee Association, while the dissident group joined the Newfound Association. This condition remained until 1861 when a presbytery was appointed to study the situation and make recommendations. The presbytery recommended that the church be dissolved and each member in good standing be given their letter of dismissal. This same group recommended that a new church be organized, to be known as the "Crabtree New Baptist Church". This name was used for some time, gradually people began to call it Crabtree Baptist Church.

With the organizing of the new church came a renewed interest on the part of its members. In 1865 a great revival broke out. There were 35 persons approved for baptism and several came by letter. In 1877 twenty-one persons were baptized as a result of revival effort. Problems in the church were trying to meet financial responsibilities, especially the pastor's salary, and the problem of discipline. Charges were often brought against someone, but this practice gradually ceased to be used. By the first part of the twentieth century few trials were held.

In addition to holding trials to remove members from the church roll, sometimes a

committee was appointed to correct the rolls. As an example in 1869, 80 members were listed but in 1870, only 44 members were reported.

The Crabtree Baptist Church is the mother church for both the Rock Springs and James Chapel churches.

Crabtree, along with 13 other churches, formed the Paywood Association in 1886. Crabtree has continued to cooperate with the Paywood Association and the Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School was the first organization to be established, later came Training Union, WMB and Brotherhood.

In recent years, the church has become really mission minded. Total gifts to Foreign missions in 1907 was \$.68 and in 1980 the total was \$4,110.

Houses of worship occupied by the congregation have been a rude log building which was used until about 1878 when a good frame building was built on the present site. It was occupied until 1963 when it was torn down to make room for the sanctuary of the present building. The educational building was begun in 1958. Total cost of the two buildings was about \$68,000. Many improvements have since been added.

The following have served as pastor, early records are not available:

1840-51 John Haynes, 1852-56 no records, 1857-58 R. H. Moody, 1859-60 J. Farham, 1860-61 C. B. Mingus, 1861-62 Thomas Henson, 1862-63 William Hensley, 1864-66 J. A. Hagaman, 1867-68 J. D. Wright, 1868-70 E. Morgan, 1870-73 William Haynes, 1873-74 C. M. Greene, 1874-75 J. D. Wright, 1875-76 W. H. Conner, 1876-77 C. M. Greene, 1877-81 Elijah Allison, 1881-83 R. A. Sentelle, 1883-84 J. G. Mashburn, 1884-85 A. B. Thomas, 1885-88 W. Wiley Wells, 1888-89 L. J. Bailey, 1890-92 R. A. Sentelle, 1892-98 M. C. Compton, 1899-1900 Elijah Allison, 1900-01 R. A. Sentelle, 1902-03 Not listed, 1903-04 M. R. N. Caldwell, 1904-05 Not listed, 1905-08 F. H. Hipps, 1908-11 Douglas Davis, 1911-15 Mont Haynes, 1915 four months J. C. Bennett, 1915-17 L. F. White, 1917-18 John Hoglen, 1918-20 not listed, 1921-23 H. C. Spears, 1923-24 J. Y. Davis, 1924-26 P. C. Hicks, 1927-29 Thomas Erwin, 1929-34 Forest Ferguson, 1934-36 J. Y. Davis, 1936-38 I. A. Rhinehart, 1939-40 Robert Gaddis, 1940-47 Forest Ferguson, 1948-49 William Abel, 1949-53 M. H. Raby, 1953-55 Doyle Miller, 1955-58 Gay Chambers, 1958-59 Bobby Trull, 1959-67 M. C. Wyatt, 1967-69 Eddie Deitz, 1969-81 Gay Chambers, 1981 - Jerry Ensley.

Compiled by Gay Chambers



## CRESTVIEW

Crestview Baptist Church was started as a mission sponsored by the Haywood Baptist Association. It was started April 1, 1962 as part of the 30,000 Movement of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is situated on Pisgah Drive, about four miles south of Canton on what was the Osborne Farm. The first services were held in L. J. Tatham's garage until property could be bought. They also used a prefab building that belonged to the Association. At the first meeting 43 people were present. Rev. Wayne Sorrells, Associational Missionary at the time, served as the minister every Sunday morning.

At the first meeting the congregation voted to allocate 8 percent of their offerings through the Cooperative Program and 2 percent to the Haywood Baptist Association. Great help was extended to the young mission by the First Baptist Church of Canton. Three members, Miss Mae Holtzclaw and Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Horton helped greatly in teaching and in advising.

Soon the Osborn farm was sold at auction and Crestview Mission bought a lot containing 5 acres for \$16,000.00. The Baptist State Convention gave \$2,000.00 toward the purchase price.

On September 26, 1965 the Crestview Mission was organized into a Baptist Church under the name of Crestview Baptist Church working with the Haywood Baptist Association, the North Carolina State Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. The first pastor was Rev. Wayne Sorrells who had resigned and was attending Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest.

The pastors that have served until now are: Wayne Sorrells, G. Hanford Hamby, Frank Harvey, and Jimmy Brown who is serving at the present writing, January 1977.

Present membership is 188 and Sunday School enrollment of 143.

Compiled in January 1977 by Thomas Erwin

1979 called Larry Holloway as pastor who served until 19

1981, January 25 ordained Ray Sharpe into the ministry and is serving at Belmont.

March 30 presented Pastor Holloway with a new 1981 Chevette.

Installed carpet, new ceiling and furniture in auditorium which is being enlarged.



## DELLWOOD

Dellwood Baptist Church was organized about 1845. It was first called Jonathan Creek Baptist Church. We know very little about the early history of the church, not knowing the names of the organizing presbytery, pastor, or charter members. The deed for the property was executed November 2, 1845 by John Leatherood to J. B. Leatherwood and others, Trustees.

The first church was made of logs near the present church in a thick grove of trees. The men of the church did the work with the women serving lunch each day, brought it from home on horseback.

All of the churches in Haywood belonged to the Tuckaseegee Baptist Association which included the territory of Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain and Cherokee Counties. Some of this territory had not been organized as the counties now are.

Considering the date of the deed above, we believe the church was organized in 1845 but there is no mention of it in the Tuckaseegee minutes until 1848. The pastor was John Haynes and the membership was about 15 as we gather from other sources. A very dim record gives John Haynes as pastor and a membership of 15 in 1849. Rev. Haynes was also pastor at Bethel during this time.

The Tuckaseegee minutes are lacking for 1852-56 and Haynes drops from the record for Jonathan. In 1857-58 C. B. Mingus was pastor and membership was 28. There were no records in 1858-70. The Civil war was raging and it is not uncommon to find that church records were limited during these dark times.

Pastors served as follows: 1870 William Haynes, 1871-72 represented in the Associational minutes but no pastor, 1876 W. Ensley, 1879 -81 R. A. Sentelle, 1882-83 no pastor, 1884-89 R. A. Sentelle. The year of 1886 was the year Haywood Association was organized and Jonathan had at that time 55 members. The pastor in 1890-91 was E. E. Blount, 1892 J. R. Moore, 1893 Blount, 1894 J. R. Moore, 1895 M. C. Compton, 1896-97 M. R. N. Caldwell, 1898 no letter, 1899 Mont Haynes. No pastors were listed in Associational minutes until 1904. R. A. Sentelle was pastor from 1904-11, 1911-1912 George Wharton, 1913-14 C. F. Owen. The church did not send a letter to the Association any more until 1919 when W. M. Pruett was listed and probably served until about 1922. There was no minute of the Association for the year 1922.

Jonathan sent delegates for 1923 but did not list a pastor. The pastor for 1924 was C. G. Campbell and P. C. Hicks served 1925-28. A NOTE here is the fact that the name Jonathan was dropped in 1926 and the name DELLWOOD was adopted and appears the first time in the minutes of the list of churches that year. No pastor is listed for 1929-31. 1932 H. W. Baucom supplied from his work in Waynesville, First. F. H. Leatherwood served 1933, no pastor listed for 1934-35, Robert Gaddis served 1936-43. No pastor listed for 1944, 1945 Nando Stephens, 1947-55 George Mehaffey, 1956-59 Paul Grogan, 1960-63 Wayne Willett, 1964-67 Guy Grogan, 1968-72 Dan Ward, 1973-76 David Teague.

The congregation worshipped in three different houses since its founding. The first house, made of logs, stood near the present building. The second house was a frame structure and stood on the south side of the highway near the junction of Maggie Valley and Jonathan Creek. This building was erected in 1884 by public and private donations and was dedicated in 1885, Pink Francis was contractor. George Arrington and Isaiah Davis hewed the sills and made the pews for \$1.50 each. Many of these benches are in possession of some of the present members. In 1955 the congregation decided to move to the present location and erected a beautiful brick structure, George Mehaffey was pastor. The first service in the new building was November 1955. The total indebtedness was paid off in 1966. In April of 1966 the church bought the T. S. Roten property and remodeled the house for a pastor's home.

Compiled in January 1977 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

1980-81 Church re-roofed the building.

1981 David Teague resigned as pastor.

1981, July 12 Stephen Gibson was called as pastor and ordained by Spring Hill on August 30, 1981.

1981 Installed aluminum siding on all exterior woodwork.

## DUTCH COVE

Until the year 1941, the only church in the community of Dutch Cove was Morning Star Methodist Church. A few Baptist people in the community often worshiped at this church but yearned for the establishment of a Baptist church in the community. This looked very slim because of few in number. In 1941 a group of Baptists led by Rev. R. T. Reynolds, began meeting in an old school house for prayer services. These services continued for a short time until a revival meeting was held by a visiting preacher. Souls were saved and the need for a Baptist church was evident. The people met October 12, 1941 and organized a church and named it DUTCH COVE BAPTIST CHURCH. On November 12, 1941 the church called and ordained V. N. Allen as pastor. He served until June 1942 and the church called J. Doyle Miller as pastor. At the time of organization there were 23 charter members.

The winter of 1942-43 was a very cold one and the congregation had a rough time meeting in the old school house. Steps were taken to repair the building but it seemed that God had other plans. On February 10, 1943, a severe storm moved the building off its foundation and left it dangerous for use.

This was a severe blow to the congregation and they had to meet in various homes. They took the destruction of this place of worship, not as a displeasure from God, but as an indication that they should build a regular house of worship. They set to work at once to erect a building. On July 30, 1944 it was dedicated free of indebtedness. The new church was received into the Haywood Baptist Association in August 1943.

Some improvements on the original building were made. Sunday School rooms were added by excavating under the building. Later eight more rooms were added to the back of the original building, making a total of twelve class rooms. The auditorium would seat 275.

The church has made good progress in its short history. It started with 23 members and by 1962 had 223, a Sunday School enrollment of almost 200 and 50 in Training Union. WMU enrollment of 30. The church has a full time program and parsonage. The value of church property is \$20,000, income was \$10,433 and total gifts to missions were \$1,116. The Lord can do great things through a small group of people who are dedicated.

Pastors serving up until this writing were: 1941-42 V. N. Allen, 1942-43 J. Doyle Miller, Miller, serving short pastorates were Harrison Benfield and Franklin Justice. J. Doyle Miller became pastor again in 1946 and served until 1954. John Smith served until 1957, O. B. Williams until 1962, Frank Reed was pastor at the time of this writing (1963).

Compiled July 1963 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

Frank Reed served until 1969.

1969 November until 1971, January 14 Lee Roy Smith served as pastor. During these years the church built an entirely new plant on a new site which was dedicated June 14, 1970.

1971, March until 1975, November Lloyd V. Fish, Jr. served as pastor.

1976, August-Wayne Willett was called as pastor and served until 19

1980, January 6 A note burning service was held and the church is debt free.

1982 Upholstered the pews.

## EAST CANTON

People in the East Canton section met for worship in a vacant house, belonging to Zeb Smith, for about six months until the construction of a building could be completed. This congregation was organized into a missionary Baptist church in 1948 adopting the name of EAST CANTON BAPTIST CHURCH. The organizing presbytery consisted of Rev. Avery Peek and Rev. Colman Brown. Rev. O. P. Ledford was the first pastor and Homer Thomason, Hobert Chambers, Walter Burgarner, and Zeb Smith were the first deacons.

The first Sunday School Superintendent was Walter Burgarner and the enrollment was 28. In 1982 enrollment was 54 and church membership was 81.

Pastors served as follows: 1948 C. P. Ledford followed by George Ingle and T. C. Heatherly, 1952 Charles Franklin, 1953 Chester Mitchell, 1954-55 Carl Chastain, 1956 Harold Townsend, 1957-59 Junior Kates, 1960-62 Van Green, 1963 no listing, 1964-65 L. J. Rogers, 1966-67 James T. Crayton, 1968 no listing, 1969 David Waters, 1970 no listing, 1971-72 Douglas Worley, 1973-74 Cecil Saunders, 1975-76 no listing, 1977 until present writing L. Jay Rogers.

This information provided by Rev. O. P. Ledford and

compiled by Gay Chambers, Historian 1983





## EAST FORK

It seems that as far back as Civil War days, there was a desire on the part of the people of East Fork of Pigeon to have religious services in the community. There was no organized Baptist group above Mount Zion (Dix Creek). People of various faiths often met in the school house for worship. The Baptist people generally held membership in Mount Zion and Locust Old Field churches.

On November 28, 1874 (Saturday) the people, with the aid of Mount Zion Baptist Church, called a presbytery for the purpose of organizing a church. They met at the "Shut-in School House". The presbytery consisted of Rev. Pendleton Holtzclaw, Chairman, Rev. Calvin Williams, Rev. John V. Reece. The name selected for the new church was EAST FORK BAPTIST CHURCH and the following were charter members coming from Mount Zion: Mr. and Mrs. William Paxton, J. R. Sharp, Hiram Clark, D. B. Clark, H. W. Patterson, Elizabeth Patterson, E. W. Sharp, Martha Clark, Catherine Sharp, Susan Clark, Mary Ann Stamey, Elizabeth Clark, and B. C. Sharp. David Sharp and Annie Sharp came from some other church.

The Tuckasee Minutes for 1875 give East Fork in the list of churches from Haywood. East Fork sent messengers to every associational meeting of the Tuckasee until 1886, also to the meeting that organized the Haywood Association at Pleasant Hill (Clyde, First) September 23-26, 1886. John V. Reece was pastor, church membership was 67, Sunday School enrollment 70 in 1886.

East Fork has worshiped in four buildings since its organization until the present (1966). They used the log school house until 1888. It was erected on land belonging to James Osborne and dedicated in 1888. Much of the labor and materials were donated by members of the church. The value of the building was \$300. On January 5, 1895, James Osborne and wife, Ruth, deeded the property to East Fork Baptist Church. The trustees were David Sharp, James Rogers, Hiram Clark, E. W. Sharp, and J. R. Sharp. The record is in Waynesville, Book 6, Page 228. A new building was erected in 1945 of native stone beside the old wooden structure which was torn down. This building was also erected without much hired labor. In 1963 East Fork entered a building program that resulted in an entirely new plant on a different site. It was dedicated July 26, 1964. This ranks with the best buildings in the Association.

Several ministers have been ordained from East Fork: Issac Norris, Clevy Farmer, W. W. Pless, R. P. Grogan, O. F. Burnett, C. C. Grogan, Oda Rogers, Ben Heatherly, Paul Grogan, J. D. Grant, Jimmy Burrese, Guy Grogan.

Pastors who have served East Fork since its founding are as follows:

John V. Reece 1874 to 1887 except the year 1884 which was served by M. C. Compton; 1884-89 E. J. Morgan; Pendleton Holtzclaw 1890; J. M. Haynes 1891-93 - 1895-1906 and 1912; Isaac Norris 1894; MRN Caldwell 1910, 1911; R. P. Grogan 1913, 1922, 1923; W. W. Pless 1915-16; W. M. Fruett 1917; B. N. Rogers 1918-21; Oder Burnette 1924-25, 1933-35, 1946-60; Claude Grogan 1926; Thomas Erwin 1927-31; R. R. Mehaffey 1932; Frank Leatherwood 1936; Marvin Mann 1937; W. L. Sorrells 1938-39; Tom Cogburn 1940-41; Joe Williams 1942-45; Charles Dean 1961-63; Wayne Willett 1964-72; Hobert Shope 1973-75.

East Fork, it seems, had Sunday School from its beginning. They built a new parsonage in 1974. From October 27 through November 3 East Fork observed its centennial in 1974.

Compiled 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

1976-77 Reroofed the auditorium, and paid off the indebtedness on the parsonage.

G. Hobert Shope served until 1979.

1979, December 30 William Grey Fisher became pastor.

1980, Sept. 28 ordained J. B. Heatherly and he became pastor at Welcome Hill.

## EAST WAYNESVILLE

Christians in the community and leaders of Haywood Baptist Association saw the need for a Baptist Church in this community. In December 1952 the Association set up a prefabricated building which had been built by the Association with funds given by the various churches.

Associational Missionary, Rev. Elmer Greene and Earl Mashburn, a layman, led in starting a mission Sunday School on December 14, 1952 with eleven people present. Mr. Mashburn served as superintendent. Rev. Green brought the message. He was instructed to contact Hobert Shope, Jr., a student at Fruitland and of Ridgeway Baptist Church in Buncombe Association, and ask him to come to act as pastor. He came with zeal and the attendance increased. A presbytery was called to organize the church composed of: Horace L. Smith, Thomas Erwin, C. D. Sawyer, Edwin Mauney, Brodus Wall, W. N. Reece, G. W. Jameson, W. S. Young, and Elmer Greene.

The meeting was at 2:30 P. M. on February 22, 1953 for the purpose of organizing a missionary Baptist church. The mission was heated by two gas stoves. The meeting was opened by Elmer Greene who stated the purpose, introduced the presbytery. G. W. Jameson read Mark 3:13-14, C. D. Sawyer led in prayer, Horace L. Smith served as moderator, and Elmer Greene, clerk.

Bro. Smith asked for the various people present to give statements showing the need of a Baptist church in East Waynesville. Mr. Mashburn and Mrs. Wade Brown gave a summary of work as it had progressed as a mission station and the number of prospects living in the community revealed by a census. The council voted to proceed with organization. The New Hampshire Articles of Faith and the Church Covenant were read by Rev. Greene. The people subscribed to the reading unanimously. Those wishing to join were asked to present letters. The following were examined and accepted by the council: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mashburn, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Galloway, Betty Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. Hobert Shope, Jr., Sharon Shope, Mrs. Alice Underwood, Jack Nelson, and Mrs. Clarine Sisk. These stood in solemn vow that they would form the nucleus of a new church. The church was declared fully organized and ready to transact business. The first was to open the doors for new members and the following came under watch care until letters could be received: Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Timbes, Harold

Jenkins, and Mrs. Mack Robinson. The following were received as candidates for baptism: Mrs. Robert Galloway, Jack Nelson, Joe David Sisk, Barbara Sisk, and Mack Robinson. Rev. Thomas Erin led in prayer for the prosperity of the new church.

The church voted to call the name of the new church EAST WAYNESVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH. Rev. Horace L. Smith was elected to moderate the meeting and the following officers were elected: Clerk Mrs. Mack Robinson, Treasurer Mrs. Wade Brown, Deacons Earl Mashburn, Ransom Galloway and Wade Brown. Sunday School Superintendent Earl Mashburn, and Pastor Hobert Shope, Jr.

Mr. Shope had not been ordained, consequently a presbytery consisting of Elmer Greene, R. H. Galloway, A. E. Peek, Thomas Erwin, George Mehaffey, George Troutman, and Earl Mashburn was called. He was ordained on March 14, 1953 in to the gospel ministry and Wade Brown and Harold Jenkins were ordained to the deaconship.

In June 1953 the East Waynesville Baptist Church moved into the old community building on Woodland Drive. This property had been acquired April 28, 1953 and the trustees were G. F. Timbes, Wade Brown and Mack Robinson.

Application to the Association was prepared and sent to the Association in meeting at Fines Creek Baptist Church, August 18, 1953. Messengers were Rev. and Mrs. Hobert Shope, Jr., Mrs. Mack Robinson, and Mr. and Mrs. Wade Brown.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1953-56 Hobert Shope, Jr., 1956-59 M. H. Raby, 1960-63 W. L. Sorrells, 1964-66 Grady Glaze, 1967 Albert Parham as supply, 1968-71 Ted Reeves, 1971-77 James Kirkpatrick, 1977-78 Claude Conard, 1979-81 Clifton Barnes, 1981-Kerry Wright.

UPDATE: in 1981 a pastorium was purchased on 113 Forest View Drive, Waynesville.

## EMMANUEL

The Emmanuel Baptist Church was founded in 1970 by a group who pulled out of the Woodland Baptist Church. The group was led by the Rev. Joel Ferguscn who was elected the first pastor and served until his death on June 19, 1980. Gilmer Morrow and Cecil Lee were elected as the first deacons. The organizing service was held in the basement of the Charles Shuler home with 62 present.

There were 57 charter members as follows: Joyce Bennet, Glen Beasley, Velma Beasley, Carl Ewart, Jo Ann Ewart, Stanley Ewart, Leslie Ewart, Mrs. Etta Hill, Mrs. Beulah Hooper, James Holt, Rev. and Mrs. Joel Ferguson, Becky Ferguson, Janice Ferguson, Vickie Hornton, Floyd Holt, Paul Hill, Howard Jones, Mackleen Jones, Cecil Lee, Claudia Lee, Doyle Lee, Edna Lee, Mrs. Annie Lee, Bruce Lindsey, Mary Lindsey, Marchella Lindsey, Mack Lindsey, Mrs. Willie Leatherwood, Janet M. Haney, Alma Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer Morrow, Richard Moody, Darrell Messer, Kenneth Parker, Rachel Parker, Jerry Rathbone, Willie Mae Rathbone, Danny Rathbone, Charles Shuler, Louise Shuler, John Schmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Trantham, Diane Trantham, John Ward, Kathleen Ward, Steve Ford, Dorothy Ford, Zeb Hooper, Roger Lee, Grace Lee, Walter Lee, Nell Banks, Pat Schmidt and DeRoy Ford.

The second meeting of the church was in the store building of Handy Hannah. This building was used until 1971 when four and one-third acres of land was purchased from W. A. McCracken for \$10,000.00. On September the Association loaned the church a 20' x 30' prefabricated building. After adding to this building the first service was held in it October 27, 1971. It was used until 1975 when the present building was erected. A note burning for the indebtedness on the land was held October 19, 1980. New pews were received May 12, 1981 and a picture was painted above the baptismistry July 1981.

After the death of Rev. Joel Ferguson, the Rev. Ted Reeves was elected as pastor on November 9, 1981 and is serving at the present time.

Pulpit furniture was donated by the Garrett Funeral Home in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer Morrow in 1978.

Emmanuel has ordained two men to the ministry: Charles Shuler, now serving Red Bank and Dwight Banks, who served Welcome Hill. They have also licensed to preach,

Gary Putnam and Jerry Massie.

In 1980 the brick work was completed and on December 14 the church celebrated the 10th Anniversary. On May 24, 1981 new pews were dedicated and later in the same year a steeple was installed.

Written by Gay Chambers, historian from material furnished by Mrs. Roy Trantham



## FAIRVIEW

Fairview Baptist Church was organized July 26, 1910 with eight charter members as follows: T. B. Moore, Ruben Robinson, and Lee Winchester, deacons; Dan Winchester, church clerk; H. S. Robinson, Mrs. Jane Robinson, Nora Winchester, and Mollie Winchester. These members brought letters from Allens Creek and Pleasant Balsam.

The presbytery that helped organize the church consisted of I. N. Green and J. W. Farmer, both ministers. The first pastor called was Rev. Frank Arrington.

The church entered the Haywood Baptist Association immediately and the name of appears in the Haywood Baptist Minutes for 1910. The Association met that year with Pleasant Balsam Baptist Church August 25-27.

Pastors serving are as follows: Frank Arrington, R. P. Grogan, Aaron Bryson, W. M. Pruitt, M. L. Hooper, Ellis Arrington, S. B. Pearson, Robert Gaddis, Nando Stephens, Jarvis Underwood, Gordon Scruggs, Clarence Taylor, Clyde Marcus, Martin Cable, Ben Fugate, Carl Cooke, James Plemmons, Lee Smith, Hugh Moore, O. L. Beck, Walter Sorrells, 1971

Compiled by Thomas Erwin, November 1969

### SUPPLEMENT:

The church has occupied two buildings since its organization. Both were bought from the Haywood County Board of Education. Both buildings were on Plott Creek. The first one was a one-room frame building located about 1½ miles up Plott Creek Road. When it became past using from age, it was abandoned. On March 27, 1933 the board of trustees purchased the present building- then a one-roomed rock building. Three class rooms have since been added to the building. This building is about 2 miles up Plott Creek.

Information given by Audrey Wyatt

### UPDATE: 1981

Other pastors 1970 J. W. Crawford, 1971-74 Walter Sorrells, 1974-81 Ray Mills  
1976-77 dug a well and installed restrooms  
1978-79 carpeted the auditorium, built choir loft, and burnt note.  
1982 January 3 called Danny Long as pastor who served until 19

Built new class room



## FINES CREEK

The first mention of Fines Creek is in the Tuckaseegee minutes in 1848. No pastor is listed but the delegates were W. Rathbone, S. Green, and M. Brown.

Fines Creek Baptist Church has occupied three houses of worship since its founding, probably a fourth one at the very beginning of which we have very little account. It was a thriving church in 1848 when it was in Tuckaseegee Association. There is a faint recollection among some of the older citizens of the community of an old church house that stood near the Billy Noland home. There is no way to know if it was a Union Church. However, on January 5, 1875, sold to J. G. Mashburn and Silas Green one acre of land for a Baptist Meeting House. It was down the creek below the Fines Creek School, probably. Then on July 2, 1889, Hiram Rogers and wife, Mary Rogers sold to Silas Green, Thomas James, and C. M. Rogers a tract of land containing one and one-half acres of land on which there was a church near completion. It was the one that stood upon the hill in what is now the cemetery. It seems this building was started in 1888. This building served until the present beautiful building was erected. On March 18, 1946, Mark Ferguson and wife sold .8 of an acre to the trustees of the church on which stands the present structure.

The list which follows is the best record we have of pastors:

1849 John Haynes, 1853 Fines Creek is mentioned with 28 members but no pastor; the delegates were J. S. Crawford and S. Brown. It is listed in Tuckaseegee the last time in 1854 with 20 members and J. Plemmons as pastor.

According to a record in the old minutes at Mars Hill College, Newfound Association was founded October 19 and following days 1855. Fines Creek is listed for that occasion in Newfound with delegates being J. S. Lusk, Thomas Kirkpatrick, Silas Green, and William Daniels but no pastor is named. The next Newfound records listing Fines Creek is 1859 with J. J. Sparks as pastor. Still in Newfound Association the records show that P. G. Green was pastor in 1871, 1872 C. M. Green and membership was 76, 1875 C. M. Green, 1878-79 J. R. Wilde, 1880 J. W. Hooker and Membership is 124, 1884 J. G. Mashburn, 1885-86 Adam Bright, 1888-90 E. R. Treadway.

Fines Creek came into the Haywood Association in 1892. The following pastors have served since that time: 1892-98 T. J. Frisby, 1899 M. C. Compton, 1900 no record,

1901-16 D. C. Davis. W. A. Hall became pastor some time in 1916. Fines Creek is listed the next time in 1920 with D. C. Davis pastor. We are not sure he was pastor through 1927 but each time Fines Creek is listed D. C. Davis is listed as pastor, serving a total of more than 25 years. In 1928 J. W. Corn, 1928-34 Thomas Erwin, 1935-38 Frank Leatherwood, 1939-40 R. P. McCracken, 1941-43 Jarvis Teague, 1944 R. P. McCracken, 1945-47 Roy Young, 1948 no pastor, 1949 R. P. McCracken, 1950-51 William Reece, 1952-53 J. Basal Mull, 1954 Thomas Erwin, 1955 Harold Townsend, 1956 no pastor, 1957 Paul Grogan, 1958 Claude Conard, 1959-65 Jarvis Teague, 1966-67 Jarvis Underwood, 1968-71 Jesse Hollingsworth, 1972 until April 1976 William Gardner.

Compiled May 1976 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

1976-78 William O. Henson

1979, April 1 called Samuel Adams who served until 1981

1981, August 30 called Robert Q. Woody, a member at Antioch who ordained him.

remodeled and installed aluminum siding on steeple.

## GRANDVIEW

The great church we now know as Grandview was formerly known as Rocky Branch. The Rocky Branch Baptist Church was organized August 12, 1934 in the old building at the head of Allens Creek. The presbytery that organized it was composed of Rev. H. W. Baucom, pastor of Waynesville First Baptist Church, Rev. Frank Leatherwood, pastor of Barberville, and Rock Springs Baptist Churches, and Rev. Pete Hicks, pastor of East End (now Calvary), North Canton, West Canton, and Olivet Baptist churches. The first pastor was Manuel Wyatt, first deacons were Abe Jordan and Derry Norman, first clerk was Derry Norman. There were sixteen members and Sunday School enrollment was 62.

Rocky Branch entered the Haywood Association on August 22, 1934 at the afternoon session which met at North Canton Baptist Church. Messengers were Derry Norman, Ira McClure and Alex Nichols. Rocky Branch was listed in the associational minutes for the last time in 1956.

The membership of Rocky Branch moved down to the present site August 11, 1945. A splendid rock structure had been built at a cost of some \$20,000.00. The pastor was Bolden H. Hargrove, membership was 156, Sunday School enrollment 194, and Training Union enrollment was 96.

At business meeting on Wednesday night, February 6, 1957, the name GRANDVIEW was adopted for this church. The pastor was Frank Reed, membership was 244, Sunday School enrollment was 207, Training Union 75, WMU 52.

The new educational building was completed in August 1964 at an approximate cost of \$39,000.00. The old stone building was torn down and a new sanctuary was completed at a cost of \$41,000.00 and dedicated September 5, 1965.

A backward and forward look shows the church started August 1934 as Rocky Branch with a membership of 16, Sunday School enrollment of 62 and as of October 1970 the membership is 372, Sunday School enrollment is 217.

The following pastors served: 1934-35 Manuel Wyatt, 1936-42 Nando Stephens, 1943-44 Manuel Wyatt, 1945 Bolden Hargrove, 1946-47 Nando Stephens, 1948 Jarvis Underwood, 1949-53 W. C. Weaver, 1954 G. L. Allen, 1955-56 W. G. Rhinehart, 1957-62 Frank Reed,

1963-67 Clyde Rhinehart, 1968-79 Lloyd Wolfe who is serving at the time of this writing.

Compiled October 1970 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1981

1978 Paid off bond debt on building.

1979, November 11 honored Pastor and Mrs. J. Lloyd Wolfe, on his retirement after his serving them for almost 12 years.

1980, April 6 called Virgil Holloway as pastor, purchased a van.

1982 Built fellowship hall, recarpeted auditorium and hallways and installed a new sound system.

There was very rapid growth in population in the Hyatt Creek community from 1942 to 1947. Several people purchased property and built homes. Among these were a number of Missionary Baptists who saw the need for a Baptist Church in the community.

Assisted by Miss Daphne Boone, Associational Missionary, a mission Sunday school was organized in the basement of the home of Norman Grant with 26 persons present, on August 15, 1948. Mr. Herbert Hunter was elected superintendent and Hyatt Creek Mission Sunday School was the name chosen. Attendance outgrew the basement and the need for a church building became apparent. Land was purchased from Ralph Prevost with funds raised in the community and supplemented by \$500 from the State Mission Board. Erection of a building was started and a nice stone structure 50 by 30 was completed.

Hazelwood Baptist Church sponsored this new congregation as a mission of the church, upon its organization. The organizing council met at the new Hyatt Creek Church house on July 9, 1949. Those composing the council were Rev. Thomas Erwin, pastor of Allens Creek; Rev. M. L. Lewis, pastor of Hazelwood; and Rev. Robert Gaddis, Rev. L. G. Elliott, pastor of Waynesville First Baptist Church. Deacons present were Jasper Brock, Richard Trull, Lowe Allen, Roy Mills, and Charlie Palmer. M. L. Lewis served as chairman, Thomas Erwin, Clerk, Jasper Brock gave the devotional, Robert Gaddis led the prayer, and L. G. Elliott delivered the sermon.

Chairman M. L. Lewis called the congregation to order for worship consisting of the hymn "Heavenly Sunlight" and scripture taken from Matthew 28:8-20, followed by prayer. Chairman Lewis stated the purpose of the meeting and called for those wishing to become members of the new church and had letters from sister churches to come forward. Twenty-eight people had letters, all declared genuine. Rev. Lewis read the Church Covenant and the Articles of Faith to the members and they were accepted unanimously. Bro. Lewis declared the church a fully organized Baptist Church ready to transact business. It was voted not to call a pastor until the church had had time to pray about the matter. Norman Grant was elected Church Clerk and Treasurer. George Troutman, Pless Kirkpatrick and Monroe Smith were elected Trustees. A unanimous vote declared all members charter members that joined before August 22, 1949, the date the Association met that year. Many came under the watchcare of the church that evening.



By the expiration of the date the following had identified themselves with the church:

Edna Jane Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Willett, Mr. and Mrs. R. Alna Hyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hyatt, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Plemmons, Mrs. Minerva Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Will Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Moore, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Doris Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hunter, Flora Hyatt, Blanche Jervis, John Pruitt, Lillian Ross Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Grant, Mrs. Mary K. Stephens, Mrs. Dewey Ross, Betty Boone, Bobby Boone, Mr. and Mrs. "Lum" Boone, Dorothy Bryson, Freda Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cowan, Mrs. Lillian Dalton, Mr. John Frazier, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Frazier, Bobby Frazier, Ann Grant, Wilma Grant, Mr. Oliver Howell, Tommy Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Pless Kirkpatrick, Clara Jean Messer, Joan Moore, Mrs. Gathier Morgan, Mrs. Connie Muse, Ronald Muse, Tracy Muse, Gladys Pruitt, Freda Ross, Sanford Ross, Mrs. Robert Smith, Mr. and Mrs. George Troutman, Laurena Troutman, Thenia Ann Willett, Wayne Willett, Margaret Wyatt, Kathleen Wyatt.

The church voted to call the new church the GREEN VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH. Application for membership into the Haywood Baptist Association was made and presented that year and it was fully admitted in 1950, after the probation of one year according to the custom of the Association. Rev. J. Doyle Miller, first pastor was called August 7, 1949.

Improvements and additions have been added to the building through the years.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1949-50 J. Doyle Miller, On October 21, 1951 Rev. George Mehaffey was called and served until 1963. In late 1963-67 Herbert Bryson, 1967-68 Jack Robinson, 1968-73 J. Doyle Miller, 1974- Douglas W. Hall.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

#### UPDATE:

1977, December 11 ordained Fred Frady to become pastor at Cove Creek.

1981 Donated Church bus to Waterfall Baptist Church in Cherokee.

1983, January 16 ordained Lloyd Allen to become pastor at Dan Springs Baptist Church in Bryson City.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAZELWOOD

Hazelwood began around a sawmill about one mile west of Waynesville becoming a town in 1905. The people felt the need for a place to worship. Services were held on Sunday afternoon under a grape arbor, under the sawmill shed or at the store of Mr. Jim Scates. Mr. R. L. Prevost invited them to meet in a shed at Unagusta Manufacturing Company.

Presbyterians and Baptists, needing a place of worship, built a building on Church Street. Each held services in the building and came together for revivals. Mrs. A. M. Maxwell, of Waynesville First Baptist Church came to teach the boys and girls on Sunday afternoon.

Baptists wanted an organization and on July 8, 1917 a church was organized with 45 members as Hazelwood Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of Rev. A. V. Joyner, pastor of Waynesville First Baptist Church, Rev. John C. Bennett, Rev. A. C. Bryson, Rev. W. M. Pruett. This meeting was in the old school building on Church Street. Rev. W. M. Pruett was elected as first pastor.

On July 11, 1917 the church met in conference and appointed a building committee consisting of Lee Fisher, J. B. Hoyle, S. L. Underwood, and W. H. Snyder. On May 20, 1920, the trustees purchased the school building from the Board of Education for \$1,750. The church grew and a lot was purchased for a new building on the corner of Balsam and South Pine Streets. The building was completed in 1923 while Rev. R. P. McCracken was pastor. On September 28, 1929, the debt fully paid, the building was dedicated. About 1947 a \$20,000 educational building was added. By 1953 the membership had outgrown its facilities and a site was purchased on the corner of Main Street and Virginia Avenue, where the present church stands. Rev. John I. Kiser was pastor. A new building was started in 1954, completed and dedicated March 16, 1958, at a total of \$262,000. It contained more than 40 classrooms and assembly halls and a sanctuary seating 500.

In 1949 Hazelwood Baptist Church, with the pastor M. L. Lewis was instrumental in organizing Green Valley Baptist Church.

Hazelwood Baptist Church was received into the Haywood Baptist Association in

1917 when it met at Spring Hill on August 23-25. Delegates were Thomas Moore and James Queen. The Credentials Committee composed of Rev. J. M. Haynes, Rev. R. P. Grogan, and E. J. Morgan reported favorably on West Canton and Hazelwood. No messengers were sent to the Association until 1920 when we find the statement "Hazelwood and Quinlaintown churches applied for admission into the Association and on the recommendation of the Credentials Committee both were welcomed and admitted." We cannot explain why Hazelwood was received twice. (As stated above Page three of the 1917 Associational minutes.) From 1920 on the church has sent messengers to the Association. Rev. A. V. Joyner was pastor.

The name Hazelwood was changed to FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAZELWOOD in 1953 since the North Hazelwood Church had been organized and a distinction was needed.

Up until 1970 eleven members had been licensed and ordained to preach the gospel. Those ordained are as follows: M. L. Hooper, Ellis Arrington, Robert Gaddis, Jarvis Brock, Bobby Compton, and Charles Dean.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1917-19 W. M. Pruett, 1920-21 A. V. Joyner, 1922-23 H. H. Hyde, 1924-25 R. P. McCracken, 1926-28 John Stanberry, 1929-30 W. N. Cooke, 1931 J. M. Woodard, 1932-33 B. B. Caldwell, 1934-41 J. M. Woodard, 1942 Frank Leatherwood, 1943 J. M. Woodard, 1944 no listing, 1945 Everett Murray, 1946 no listing, 1947-51 M. L. Lewis, 1952 no listing, 1953-59 John I. Kizer, 1960-63 Clarence Eiland, 1964 Roy Silvers, 1965-74 Frank Anderson.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin 1970

#### UPDATE:

1975- Rev. Jarvis B. Brock, a native of Hazelwood, served as pastor.

1976 A new Educational building was built, the Wall property on the corner of Main Street and Virginia Avenue was purchased, the house torn away and a parking lot surfaced in 1980.

1977, September 18 Celebrated 60th Anniversary. Miss Iva Nell Kitts went as the first Missionary Journeyman, from the church to Toyko, Japan.

1982 Richard Hall Taylor was ordained into the Gospel Ministry to serve a church in Georgia. In 1983 he was called to First Baptist Church, Clyde.

## HEMPHILL

Hemphill Baptist Church was organized in 1931 and came into the Haywood Baptist Association, August 20, 1931. The Association met with Olivet Baptist Church (Maggie). The presbytery for the organization of the church was B. B. Caldwell, Calvin Rose, N. D. Cagle, and George Sutton.

The charter members were Rufus Rathbone, Mrs. Oliver Carver, Calvin Rose, Dave Caldwell, Erastus Caldwell, Mrs. Nick Rose, Mrs. Jim Mocdy, Mrs. Sam Evans, Mrs. Sam Rathbone, Mrs. Calvin Rose, Mrs. Dave Caldwell, Martha Jane Rathbone, Elzie Caldwell, Noah Cagle, and Oliver Carver.

The first services were held in the Methodist Church and later moved to the Hemphill school house.

The ground to build a church house on was obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Sam Evans. They made it to the church as a gift.

The first pastor was Brown Caldwell and the first deacons were Noah Cagle, Calvin Rose, and George Sutton.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1931-34 Brown B. Caldwell, 1935-36 no pastor listed, 1937 Robert Gaddis, 1938-39 Ham Hicks, 1940-58 John Finger, 1959-60 Carl Cook, 1961-64 John Finger, 1965-66 Dock Russell, 1967 Ted Reeves, 1968 Charles Derrick, 1969 no pastor listed, 1970-72 David Teague, 1973-75 Hugh Moore, 1975-76 Charles Brown, 1977-78 no pastor listed, 1979- Charles Brown.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1983

1978 Dean Smith served a few months as pastor. Thomas Lee Smith applied to and was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board as a Missionary to Liberia, Africa

1979 Called Charles Brown who served until 19 .

1981 Dedicated new furniture.



## HIGH STREET

On August 17, 1944 prayer meeting was held at the home of R. V. Justice after which plans were made for organizing a Missionary Baptist Church. On August 27, 1944 another meeting was held for the purpose of finishing the organization of the High Street Baptist Church. Rev. Howard Mann was elected moderator. Officers elected were Rev. Howard Mann as pastor and two ordained deacons called were I. F. Mashburn and B. F. Green. Other officers were elected.

Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Porter Flemmons, Rev. and Mrs. Howard Mann, Rupert Worley, Mr. and Mrs. Ottie Mann, Mrs. Grady Bonnarrigo, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Justice, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Johnson, Mrs. J. A. Anderson, I. F. Mashburn, Mrs. Elsie Elliot, Mrs. Mae Stroupe, Mrs. Maggie Bright, Mrs. Kate Phoenix, Mrs. Helen Banks, and R. L. Swanger.

Steps were taken at once to build a house of worship. It was ready for services and the congregation moved into it January 14, 1945.

High Street entered the Haywood Baptist Association in 1948 after having been on probation for one year. At that time the membership of the church was 116 and Sunday School enrollment was 77.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1944-46 Howard Mann, 1946-47 J. W. Jackson, 1947-49 C. V. Brown, 1949-50 Grady Hamby, 1950-52 B. A. Hocper, 1952-59 O. P. Ledford, 1959-60 T. R. Huntley, 1960-63 Lawrence Parker, 1964-66 Joe Honeycut, 1967- on Dec. 12 called William O. Henson as pastor.

Compiled by Kenneth Mease October 1970

UPDATE: 1983

1967-75 William O. Henson, 1976 Frank Heatherly, 1977 no pastor listed, 1978-79 Joe Tomberlin, 1979 Installed PA System, put alunimum siding on outside woodwork  
1980 Called Gene Hall as pastor, had noteburning service and church is debt free.





## JAMES CHAPEL

James Chapel Baptist Church was organized June 28, 1942 with Avery Peek and Rev. Howard Mann as presbytery. They entered the Association in 1943 which met that year at West Canton, August 18. At the time of their entrance into the Association, they had 42 members. The first pastor was Howard Mann. The first Sunday School Superintendent was T. T. Noland. The Sunday School enrollment was 75 with average attendance of 50.

The first building and ground was obtained from the state. It was an old building erected in 1890 and used for school purposes. After the church obtained this property, a new house was built and paid for with free labor and gifts and offerings from the members. The new church was started July 3, 1951 with the first service held in it August 19, 1951.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1942-47 Howard Mann, 1948 W. H. Whitlock, 1949-51 Robert Harris, 1952 no pastor listed, 1953 Gordon Crump, 1954 no pastor listed, 1955-56 Harold Townsend, 1957-59 John R. Willis, 1960 no pastor listed, 1961 Carl Chastain, 1962-64 Jarvis Underwood, 1965-73 Charles Cable, 1974-77 Elbert Deason, 1977-78 Robert Galloway, 1979-82 Danny Whitner.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1983

1980 Installed carpet and fence, covered picnic area.

1981 Built outside baptistry.

1982, October 3 called Ray Mills to serve as pastor.



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE JUNALUSKA

It seems this church was started in 1941 when a group of the Christian people began having services in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Yarborough. It began with prayer meetings and then the people ordered literature and had Sunday School in the summer of 1941. Different preachers attended and preached from time to time. Rev. John Carper, a Methodist pastor, did some preaching. Rev. Nick Ross and John Price also preached.

Mrs. Yarborough and Jane Parton were converted in these services and baptized on December 2, 1942. Services continued through the winter months of 1943. In the spring of 1943, Mr. Jim Leatherwood offered his tobacco barn on the hill above the Yarborough home. The offer was accepted and the congregation moved. The earliest records prior to 1943 were destroyed by fire. We do not have the exact date of organization or who composed the presbytery. It is important to mention that surrounding churches gave pews and furniture to the little congregation meeting in the barn.

In 1942 Rev. Harrison Benefield became active in helping the church along. Rev. Benfield was instrumental in getting a movement on foot to raise funds to build a house of worship. He served as the first pastor. In 1945, at the afternoon session of the Associational meeting at Woodland Rev. T. H. Parris offered the recommendation that Junaluska Baptist Church be accepted into the Association. The total membership was 67.

There was effort and sacrifices of the people who erected a block building at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00 which was paid for upon completion. The building was an auditorium seating 150 people built by the people of the community. The women carried their lunch to the site. Much praise is due to Rev. Benfield for his efforts to get the church moving, working with his hands while holding a job at Champion Paper mill.

In 1959 a building program was started and included five new Sunday School rooms, two bath rooms and an office. The membership in 1969 was 169.

Charter members were as follows: Rev. and Mrs. Harrison Benfield, Billy Joe Benfield, Christine Benfield, Mary Evelyn Benfield, Mrs. Undine Burnette, Miss Retta Burnette, Mr. and Mrs. Manson Cagle, Julia Ann Cagle, Bobby Joe Cagle, Mrs. Fannie

Burr McClure, Mrs. Bonnie Hannah, Weaver Hannah, Irwin Hannah, Mr. and Mrs. James Leatherwood, Wash Messer, Mr. Francis Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Yarbrough, Glenn Parton, Miss Flora Parton, Miss Jane Parton, Miss Ruby Parton, Jack Smith, Robert Green, Mrs. Lizzie Green.

Pastors served the church as follows: Summer of 1941 to spring of 1942 John Price, Beginning of new church, 1942-46 Harrison Benfield, 3 months supply N. L. Stevens, 1946-47 C. C. Beck, 1948-49 Coyd Pipes, 1950-54 W. S. Young, 1955-59 Frank Farley, 1959-60 Wayne Willett, July 1960-December 1960 C. D. Stockton, 1961-62 Robert Wardlaw, 1962-63 Frank Farley, 1963-65 Carl Chastain, 1966-69 Carl Chastain re-elected, 1969-72 Elbert Deason, 1974-75 Wayne Willett, 76 no pastor listed, 1977- Ray Willett.

On September 30, 1962 the name of the church was changed from Junaluska Baptist Church to FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE JUNALUSKA.

Compiled in October 1970 by Mrs. Carey McCracken and  
Thomas Erwin, historian of Association

UPDATE: 1981

The church voted to relocate on a plot just off Hospital Drive just west of the new Haywood County Hospital, therefore, in 1976-77 associational year a church was built and dedicated. It contained a large assembly room which will be used as an assembly room and fellowship hall when at a later date a new sanctuary will be built. The building contains a number of classrooms and a kitchen. The name change and relocation has been very beneficial to Lake Junaluska First in the growth of the attendance and in their ministry. On August 26, 1979 the new building was dedicated. A bell housing unit and lighted cross have been erected and in 1981 the church had the road from the foot of the hill to the church paved. In 1982 the parking area was enlarged and hard surfaced.

## LAUREL GROVE

The Laurel Grove Baptist Church located in the Little East Fork community was organized June 24, 1928 by a number of residents of the community who had been attending Sunday School and occasional preaching at the little schoolhouse.

Prior to this time there had been no organized church in Little East Fork since 1895 when the Friendship Baptist Church ceased to exist. Sometimes a passing preacher would be invited to preach or maybe hold a revival. The first permanent Sunday School was organized by a Mr. Steven Lesher who had moved into the community from up north.

In December 1923 the Rev. John Sitton held a revival in which several persons were saved. On Christmas day five of them were baptized in the river with ice flowing in it. These joined the Riverside Baptist Church in January.

With the beginning of the Suncrest Lumber Company's saw mill at Sunburst more people had moved into the community helping increase the need for an organized church. The first pastor was Fred Inman, the first deacon was Charlie Inman, and the first clerk was Julius Singleton. With consolidation of the schools, the little schoolhouse was not needed any longer so the church purchased it in 1929. The present church building is situated on the same site.

The Laurel Grove Baptist Church joined the Haywood Association and appears for the first time in the minutes of 1933. The pastor at that time was the Rev. Robert Reynolds. The membership was 66, Sunday School enrollment was 56. The church has continued to prosper and serve the needs of the community.

The following pastors have served across the years: Fred Inman, W. A. Hampton, Will Massey, R. T. Reynolds, Marvin Marr, Bill Sorrells, Jarvis Underwood, Clyde Marcus, Ellis Arrington, George Ingle, Edwin Mauney, Ralph Surrentt, L. J. Rogers, Sr., Jack Robinson, Samuel Adams, Joe Sellars, and Fred Frady.



## LIBERTY

Several churches in North Carolina go by the name Liberty. It is true that in 1883 when most churches of Haywood were in the Tuckaseigee Association, there was a Haywood church in it called Liberty. We must not confuse that church with the Liberty church of the present. In 1883, the church we now know as Allens Creek was called Liberty.

The Liberty Baptist Church of the Haywood Association now is a new church organized in 1941. About 1900 the people of the vicinity of Liberty Baptist Church erected a building near the river. This building was used both for a church and public school. However, no formal organization of a church was established. It was a kind of community worship place with various ministers preaching occasionally. After the schools were consolidated, the Baptist people purchased the old building from the Board of Education and used it solely for worship purposes without organizing a church.

Some revivals were held in this old building resulting in conversions. Rev. Doyle Miller was active in promoting the religious activities. On June 8, 1941 the church was fully organized with the following men serving on the presbytery: Dr. H. K. Masteller of First Baptist Church of Canton, Rev. Frank Leatherwood, Pastor of West Canton, Rev. Howard Hall, Pastor of North Canton, Rev. R. P. McCracken, Pastor of Rock Springs, Rev. Jarvis Teague, Pastor of Fines Creek, Rev. Doyle Miller, Pastor of Sunny Point, and Rev. Eugene Moore from Greenville, Tennessee. The name adopted for the new church was LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Charter members were as follows: Lloyd Teague, Mrs. Cora Teague, M. L. Hoglen, Talmage Hoglen, Mrs. Burr Hoglen, Mrs. Leona Packett, Mrs. Zona Hoglen, Miss Edith Teague, Mrs. Fannie Williams, Mrs. Arbie McElroy. The first pastor was Rev. Doyle Miller and first deacons were Lloyd Teague, Harley McElroy, and Robert McElroy.

The church entered the Haywood Association in 1941 which met in August at Riverside and East Fork. They started with ten charter members in June, by August the membership was fourteen. In 1962 resident membership was 99 and Sunday School enrollment was 150.



There was an enlargement enterprise undertaken which resulted in a new sanctuary being erected. Land was given by G. W. Wright and J. R. White. This move was in 1952. In 1953 the present beautiful block structure was brought to completion in a most lovely location. The furniture was moved from the old building and placed in the new structure

Pastors served the church as follows: Rev. Doyle Miller, Rev. Dock Russell, Rev. John Willis, Rev. B. C. Fugate, Rev. Ted Reeves, Rev. James Elliott, 1964 Billy Lee, 1965-68 Rufus Finger, 1969 Jack Robinson, 1970 no listing, 1971-72 J. D. Grant, 1973 no listing 1974- Jerry Nelson

The Haywood Baptist Association of 1957 met with Liberty Baptist Church, Wednesday, August 21, at 9:45 A.M.

Compiled July 1963-74 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1983

1976-77 restrooms and one classroom was added to the building

1978 ordained Dean Smith

1981 built new Sunday School rooms and picnic shed

## LONG BRANCH

We do not know anything about the organization, presbytery, first pastor, or how the early history goes. It first joined the Newfound Association. Long Branch joined Haywood Baptist Association October 17, 1972. The notes here are merely what have been gleaned from the local church minutes.

The first minute we have is dated April 17, 1915 and the pastor was Rev. J. M. Haynes. Records show that he served until September 18, 1915 then a Rev. Grogan is listed for three months. No pastor is listed until August 10, 1916 and Rev. W. F. McFalls became pastor serving until June 1920. During his pastorate E. W. Scott was ordained to the ministry on October 20, 1917. Rev. W. H. Martin was pastor from July 14, 1920 until October 16, 1921.

From October 1921 there seems to have been an unsettled period for which no records were made until February 21, 1926 when Fate McElrath was called as pastor. Rev. S. G. Worley became pastor October 19, 1928 serving until November 1929 when the records stop until April 27, 1932 when Rev. Sam Hall was called as pastor. We have no records until 1935.

March 3, 1935 shows Robert Reynolds called as pastor. November 8, 1936 the Rev. I. A. Rhinehart was called as pastor and served two years. February 20, 1938 J. F. Burrell was called and served one year. On January 15, 1939 the church called G. S. Matthews as pastor and he served until April 14, 1940. Here quite a gap occurs in the minutes and there are no more records until July 29, 1955.

We can fill in this space by dropping back and bring up some history of the beginning. The original building stood upon the mountain quite a way from the present building and was somewhat inconvenient to reach.

On July 29, 1955 the church met in conference. It seems there was no pastor for they elected Jess Scott to act as moderator. It is noble to know that for fifteen years someone had kept the fires burning. In this meeting they discussed moving off the mountain and building a new building. A building committee consisting of R. Worley, Earnie Parham and Arland Worley, were elected to find a suitable place to build and make plans for a new church.

August 5, 1955 the church met again in conference with Jess Scott again acting as moderator. At this meeting the building committee announced they had bought a building site from Andy Worley for \$350.00. They voted to use some of the old material in the new building and to sell the remainder.

In the August meeting of the church again with Jess Scott moderator they accepted plans for a building 28 by 40 feet.

In October 1955 the church called Rev. J. B. Gibson as pastor. The next church conference was called April 14, 1956 and it was reported that \$5,221 had been paid on the new building. Edwin Mauney was called as pastor September 30, 1956 and served until June 15, 1957. At that meeting the church voted not to buy any more quarterlies but to use the book of Hebrews instead. On July 14, 1957 Mr. and Mrs. Mauney notified the church they could not be pastor any longer. They were given letters of dismissal.

Rev. T. C. Heatherly was called as pastor March 16, 1958. In the church conference of July 20, 1958 the membership was 82. 17 new members had joined since March 1958. In conference February 4, 1959 it was voted to increase the insurance on the new building to \$10,000.00. In conference April 22, 1959 the pastor's salary was raised to \$50.00 per month. On July 5, 1959 the church instructed the Trustees to make Dr. J. L. Reeves a deed for the old church property on the mountain.

Rev. Carl Chastain served as pastor from February 21, 1960 until 1962. Rev. Plemmons served from September 1962 til July 28, 1963 when Chester Freeman was called. The church debt was paid off by April 1966. Rev. Freeman probably served until May 1967. Rev. T. C. Heatherly was called June 29, 1968 and resigned due to ill health April 29, 1973. While Rev. Heatherly was pastor Long Branch was received into the Haywood Baptist Association on October 17, 1972.

Rev. Frank Heatherly was called on May 6, 1973 and served until May 1976. Rev. J. M. Lester served 1976, J. Landen Harris 1977. 1978- Jack Scott served as pastor. 1982 The Uniform Church letter showed Long Branch as the fastest growing Sunday School in Haywood Baptist Association with an enrollment of 126 and average attendance of 130. The church was recognized at the Annual meeting and in the Waynesville Mountaineer. It is also in a building program.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MAGGIE VALLEY

On May 19, 1900 a group of 35 interested citizens met in Henry Chapel School with the following presbytery to organize a missionary baptist church in Maggie Valley. They were: Rev. J. M. Haynes, R. N. Caldwell, J. F. Moore, R. A. Sentelle, and A. E. Brown.

The 35 charter members chose the name Olivet Baptist Church for their organization. The Olivet Baptist Church was taken into the Association August 17, 1900. The first messengers to the association were: R. P. Haynes, N. E. Breck, and V. P. Brown. That meeting was held at the Old Locust Field Church, now First Baptist Church, Canton.

Services continued to be held in the building known as Henry Chapel. It was used by the Northern and Southern Methodist Churches, and the Baptist as well as being used for a school building for the community.

In February 1926, the pastor, Rev. Pete Hicks, led the Church to build a new building. The land on which to build was secured from Jake Lowe, and the lumber was given by the Plott brothers. The ladies of the community cooked suppers and made quilts with the proceeds going to help pay on the building. The building was completed in 1927. All Sunday School classes were held in the one room until 1947 when nine class rooms were added and the sanctuary remodeled.

In 1952 a large lot was purchased in back of the building for parking space.

Other than a few minor changes the church remained as was until October 1962, when the congregation voted to add twenty new class rooms, and brick veneer the building at a cost of \$45,000.00. The project was completed by July 1963. Other recent improvements include the installation of a baptistry, steeple, chimes, air conditioning, carpeting, church sign, a library, and paving of the parking lot.

In 1973 the name was changed to the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of MAGGIE VALLEY.

Pastors served as follows: 1900-08 Rev. J. M. Haynes, 1908-11 Rev. J. R. Liner, 1911-13 Rev. J. Horton, 1913-15 Rev. J. M. Pruitt, 1915-22 no records available, 1922-39 Rev. Pete Hicks, 1939-41 Rev. John Finger, 1941-43 Rev. Jarvis Underwood, 1943-46 Rev. Nando Stephens, 1946-47 Rev. Robert Harris, 1947-50 Rev. Jarvis Underwood, 1950-

1952 Rev. O. P. Ledford, 1952-56 Rev. John R. Willis, 1956-59 Rev. Lawrence Parker,  
1959-63 Rev. Dock Russell, 1963-81 Rev. O. P. Ledford, 1981- Rev. Davis Plemmons.

UPDATE: 1983

1977 Ordained Landin Harris to serve Long Branch.

1979 purchased adjoining lot.

1981, May 24 called Rev. Davis Plemmons as pastor.

1982, June voted to build a new sanctuary, held groundbreaking service on September 5.

1983, April 10 held dedication service for new sanctuary.

## MEADOW GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Religious services were held in the Meadow Grove School house for sometime. The first recorded information is in a deed to the trustees of the Meadow Grove Union Church, dated June 30, 1932. It was made to trustees J. A. Kuykendall, P. V. Kuykendall, and J. R. Metcalf by the Board of Education of Haywood County for sale of Meadow Grove School property for \$400.

The first recorded service was October 11, 1934 and Rev. Marvin Mann was elected as pastor. The offering was \$1.39. Methodists and Baptists had separate organizations with the pastors alternating at the preaching services. Union literature was used.

On October 3, 1936 the term of office for deacons was set for two years. Later the custom is for each deacon to resign at the end of each year. A form of deacon rotation was established.

There were times of different views and ideas causing splits in the fellowship. At times disciplinary action was taken against some members and they were expelled from the fellowship. Finances were the biggest problem.

In January 1938 nine members asked for their letters of dismissal, which was granted by the church, for some unexplained reason the nine asked the church to withdraw fellowship from them, which was granted. This group of persons later became the founders of the Burnette Cove Baptist Church.

In October 1939 the members of both churches voted to become a mission church. This arrangement continued until November 9, 1951 when they went back to being the Baptist and Methodist churches. From 1939 until 1947 there are no minutes so that except for the name of the pastor nothing is recorded for that period.

On January 16, 1947 the Baptists sold their interest in the property to the Methodists for \$2,000, then on July 2, 1947 the Methodists sold all of the property to the Meadow Grove Mission Church for \$3,000. The mission church continued until November 9, 1951 when the congregation voted to return to being Methodist and Baptist.

The Meadow Grove Baptist Church was organized November 9, 1951 with the help of Rev. A. E. Peek. Rev. T. C. Heatherly was elected pastor, deacons were James Heatherly, Frank Heatherly, and Tom Norris.

On March 12, 1955 the church voted to re-enter the Haywood Association. On May 21, 1959 the Baptists voted to buy out the Methodist interest in the property. The committee to make arrangements for the purchase consisted of Frank Heatherly, Arthur Kuykendall, and Marion Farmer.

During the last two decades Meadow Grove has experienced a steady growth. Rev. Carter Parham became pastor in 1965. Many improvements and additions have been made to the building and grounds.

During the history of the church Meadow Grove has ordained two men into the Gospel ministry. They were T. C. Heatherly, February 19, 1938 and Frank Heatherly, July 17, 1966 licensed and ordained later.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1934-37 Marvin Mann, 1937-39 Ham Hicks, 1939-44 J. W. Bryson, 1944-46 Garland Willis, 1946-48 O. F. Burnette, 1948-51 T. C. Heatherly, 1951 Marvin Wyatt, 1951-55 T. C. Heatherly, 1955-57 Carl Chastain, 1957-59 Lush Rogers, 1959-61 T. C. Heatherly, 1961-63 H. W. Mehaffey, 1963-65 Shelby Beaver, 1965- Carter Parham.

Written by Gay Chambers, historian, 1982 from material furnished by Rev. and Mrs. Carter Parham, and Mrs. Ethel Heatherly.



## MOUNT ZION

The first religious services were probably held in a home. Not long after the Civil War a school house was built and also used for religious services. In 1872 the Mount Zion Baptist Church was organized and is recorded in the Tuckaseigee Association. The presbytery consisted of Rev. D. B. Nelson, Rev. Calvin Williams, and layman Milas C. Compton. First Deacons were Eli Deaver and James Burnette who also served as first and second clerk.

Mount Zion was one of fourteen churches coming in 1886 to organize Haywood Baptist Association. The church was represented by Rev. J. M. Haynes as pastor. When the county built a new school house in 1900 the people moved there to worship but by 1905 religious services had about ceased. In that year interested men and women set about to erect a separate house for worship. People of other faiths all worked together. The Baptists built a new church of wood on the present site in 1925. There was a period of inactivity until early in 1920 when some men and boys set about to repair the abused church building. In 1921 the church called Rev. J. D. Colley of Buncombe to come and assist the pastor, Rev. J. M. Haynes, who had been called to reorganize the church. Mount Zion again became a thriving church and purchased the land and house from Taylor and Carrie Deaver on August 17, 1920, Book 57, page 73 Register of Deeds in Waynesville. A clause in the deed gives both Methodists and Baptists equal rights to use the building. The Methodists gave up their practice of worshipping there about 1923. The church soon outgrew the building.

On October 19, 1924 the church voted unanimously to build a new church on a different site. New trustees Sherman Williams, Tom Norris and Loranzo Deaver were selected to secure a new site and act as a building committee. Bill Thompson was elected treasurer of the finance committee. Land was obtained from the Lenoir heirs.

Work progressed at a rapid pace with logs and labor being given by people of all faiths in the community. The building was finished November 21, 1925. Thomas Erwin was pastor and preached the first sermon November 22, 1925. May 31, 1926, the new church was dedicated free of debt. There were many additions and improvements until the year 1957 when work was begun on a new sanctuary which was completed March 1958 at a cost of \$58,000 including furniture. The first service was Easter, April 6, 1958.

The first funeral held in the new sanctuary was Mrs. Cora Free on May 20, 1958 and the first wedding was Ralph Singleton and Pauline Inman on August 2, 1958. The new sanctuary was dedicated September 28, 1958. There were three services that day.

Pastors served the church as follows: Until 1886 Calvin Williams, Ephraim Norris, Milas C. Compton and John V. Reece. 1886-1893 J. M. Haynes, 1894-97 no record, 1898 Isaac Norris, 1899-1900 I. F. Moore, 1901 J. M. Haynes, 1902-03 no listing, 1904 Isaac Norris, 1905-06 no listing, 1907 Ephraim Norris, 1908 S. J. Williams, 1909-13 J. M. Haynes, 1914 R. A. Sentelle. 1915-20 no record, 1920-25 J. M. Haynes, 1925-27 Thomas Erwin, 1927-33 Oder Burnette, 1933-37 Thomas Erwin, 1937-41 Oder Burnette, 1941-44 Gay Chambers, 1944-58 Thomas Erwin, 1958-61 Wayne Sorrells, 1962-68 Frank Hopkins, 1969-71 T. E. Robinette, 1972 to time of this writing James Burress.

During 1974-75 Mount Zion built an educational building to the new sanctuary. It contains facilities to meet all the needs of the church.

Membership at Mount Zion in 1886 was 50 and in 1977 580. Celebrated 105th anniversary in 1977.

Submitted by Thomas Erwin

## NINEVAH

In 1948 the Allens Creek Baptist Church began a move to establish a mission Sunday School in the Ninevah community. The Rev. T. E. Erwin was pastor of Allens Creek. With the help of the Associational Missionary, Miss Daphne Boone, assisted by Mrs. Jake Schulhofer, a census was taken which indicated that there were 273 of whom 120 were lost people living in this community. A mission Sunday school was organized June 26, 1949 with 33 present. Meetings were held in a tent located at Dewey Bryson's with a Sunday enrollment of 65. The Rev. John Ralph Willis of Canton conducted a revival that summer. Soon afterwards the Rev. Clarence T. Taylor became the acting pastor of the mission. Later services were held in the home of David Duckett where it was organized into the Ninevah Baptist Church December 11, 1949 with 28 charter members. The organizing presbytery consisted of Rev. M. L. Lewis, Associational Moderator, Thomas Erwin, Pastor of Allens Creek Baptist Church, L. G. Elliott, Pastor Waynesville First Baptist Church, and R. P. McCracken. Rev. C. L. Allen was called as pastor. Services held in house belonging to Ben Kirkpatrick.

After this services were held in a vacant house belonging to Mr. Gay Corn for about a year. A lot was purchased through a gift of \$500.00 from the Baptist State Convention. A building was begun and the church held its first meeting in the building June 24, 1951. This building was made of stone and is the one now in use with the improvements made in the way of adding class rooms in 1963.

In August 1951 the church was received into the Haywood Baptist Association as a cooperating church. On October 7, 1956 the church building was dedicated. The membership was 112. On September 1, 1957 Rev. Wayne Sorrells became pastor of the church. The church voted on August 17, 1958 to go to a full time program. The membership continued to grow during 1957-58. When Rev. Sorrells left as pastor on January 18, 1959, the membership was 155 and the weekly offerings had increased to about \$100.00.

On May 10, 1959 Rev. Claude Conard became pastor and served until June 1963. During this time the church purchased a parsonage. Great progress was made during the years of 1959-62. Membership increased to 225, the budget is approximately \$12,000 per year, gifts to missions have increased from \$20.00 at the beginning to

\$900.00 for 1962. Many improvements have been made on the building since it was first erected. In 1962 the church purchased an additional lot for future expansion.

Rev. Lee Roy Smith became pastor in 1963. During his pastorate a new educational building was erected and a new parsonage built. Steps were taken to erect a new sanctuary. Rev. Smith resigned in January 1966. The church called Rev. Alfred Sellers and he served until 1972. During the year 1970 a new sanctuary was completed.

Other pastors serving were 1973-76 Forest Blankenship, 1976-80 D. C. Sullivan.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE:1983

1980- Wayne Sorrells

1981 paved parking lot.

## NORTH CANTON

A prayer band was organized in the North Canton community in 1920. From this the North Canton Baptist Church was organized early in 1921. They made application to the Haywood Baptist Association immediately because they are mentioned in the minutes of the Association in 1921 which met with Spring Hill Baptist Church, Thursday, October 20. Services were held in the old Austin Chapel School Building until a church building was erected just across the road from the present building.

The first pastor was W. M. Pruitt. The first deacons were James Robinson, Al Liner and Sam Morrow, church clerk was Mrs. Taylor Duckett. The Sunday School Superintendent in 1921 was A. P. Liner. Church membership was 43 and Sunday School enrollment was 85.

The building committee for the original building was Haywood Chapman, Taylor Duckett, and Earl Clark. This building consisted of one large auditorium which was built like a capital "T". All Sunday School classes met in this building, which was amply large for that day. Services were in this building until October 1954. In 1954 plans were made to build the present sanctuary with Sunday School rooms, bathrooms and central heating. It was a modern brick structure. The committee for this building was Troy Davis, Willard Clark, J. J. Ivester, Bert Garren, and Melvin Henline. The building was erected during the pastorate of Wm. N. Reece with the first service held during the midst of a revival conducted by the pastor and Rev. Thomas Erwin on a fifth Sunday, October 31, 1954.

The Woman's Missionary Society was organized in 1932, BYPU in 1933, and Brotherhood in 1941. The church had a part time pastor until 1941 when it went to full time work, the first full time pastor being J. Howard Hall.

During the history of this church, it has had a full program cooperating with the Haywood Baptist Association, The Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. The church has been host to the Association four times- 1922, 1934, 1949, 1959. All were day sessions, the one in 1949 was a second day session, the others were first day meetings. The unfortunate thing about the associational meeting in 1922, there was no minute of that meeting made and published in the Associational minutes. However, the meeting was held August 24 and 25.

The sermon was supposed to have been preached by Solomon J. Williams according to the arrangements made by the Committee on Time and Place as recorded in Associational minutes of 1921.

Pastors served as follows: 1920-22 & 28 W. M. Pruett, 1923-25 & 29 B. N. Rogers, 1926 Claude C. Grogan, 1927 R. R. (Bud) Mehaffey, 1930-37 P. C. (Pete) Hicks, 1938-39 Frank Leatherwood, 1940 O. F. Burnett, 1941 J. Howard Hall, 1942-45 Hobart Rogers, 1946-51 C. D. Sawyer, 1952-55 Wm. N. Reece 1956 no listing, 1957-58 Robert Round, 1959-62 Elmer Carter, 1963-67 Carl Green, 1967-70 George Moulton, 1971 no listing, 1972-75 Thomas Straka. Above dates are approximate being based upon associational minutes.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1983

1975, until October 1980 Milburn Parham served as pastor. Host to Association in 1980.  
1981, June Samuel Adams called as pastor and served until 19  
1981 a new educational building was erected and dedicated on November 8.



## NORTH HAZELWOOD

The church started as a mission under the leadership of Rev. J. M. Woodard in 1951. The first services were held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Robinson.

Later a small building was rented by the congregation at the intersection of Sulphur Springs and Plott Creek Road. Sunday school and worship services were held each Sunday with the Rev. Woodard and Rev. Albert Robinson alternating the services.

On June 29, 1952 the church was organized under the leadership of the Rev. Elmer Greene, the Associational Missionary of the Haywood Baptist Association. The charter members were Earl Robinson, Katherine Robinson, Dan Winchester, Effie Robinson, Betty Jo Snyder, Aaron Winchester, Norma Winchester, Betty Burchfield, James M. Burchfield, Ernestine Robinson, Ernest Snyder, Verlin Robinson, Samuel Winchester, Charles Lyons, Amanda Burchfield, Mrs. Clyde Burchfield, and Nora Winchester. These 17 members heard the Articles of Faith read and the Church Covenant and voted unanimously to accept them. They also voted to call the new organization the NORTH HAZELWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH. The Rev. Elmer Greene, guided the church and nurtured it as pastor along with his other duties for the first year. First deacons were Daniel Winchester, Earl Robinson, and Ernest Snyder. The Sunday school was going good at that time with 64 enrolled.

The church voted immediately to apply to the Haywood Association for membership. The Association met that year on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 19-20 with Calvary, Dellwood and Olivet. In the afternoon session at Olivet, August 20, 1952, the Credentials Committee recommended that North Hazelwood be received into the Association on probation for one year. The recommendation was approved. The membership was 19. Total gifts for that year amounted to \$335.00.

On August 18, 1953 at the afternoon session of the Association at Fines Creek, North Hazelwood Church along with Red Bank and East Canton were received into full membership after a year of satisfactory probation. At that time the membership was 22 and Rev. Ben Fugate was pastor. In that year the church purchased a lot at the corner of Main and Hyatt Streets. The Associational mission building was moved to this lot and morning and evening services were held until the completion of a house of worship. Training Union was organized for the evening services under the leader-



ship of Ellis Troutman.

By 1954 Rev. Avery Peek was pastor and the church was in process of building a house of worship. It is interesting to note that the pastor's salary for that year was \$520.00. The assistant pastor was Rev. J. R. Blanton.

The new church was completed and the congregation moved into it in 1955. The pastors that have served the church are as follows: 1952 Elmer Greene, 1953 Ben Fugate, 1954-59 Avery Peek, 1960 Albert Robinson, 1961-69 J. M. Woodard.

The church reported to the association in 1968 a membership of 136.

Compiled August 1969 by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1983

1970 J. M. Woodard resigned as pastor.

1970-72 Kenneth Fugate called as pastor. 1973 no listing.

1974 Frank Reece, 1975-76 Jack Robinson, 1977- Carl Chastain.

1981 The church did extensive remodeling, installed a baptistry, built choir loft and extended the auditorium 30 feet.

## OAK GROVE

On September 2, 1889, a small group of people met in Cabe's Chapel School House and organized a missionary Baptist Church. The schoolhouse had served as a place of worship for the entire community accomodating all denominations. The name New Hope Baptist Church was given to this new organization. The charter members came from Pleasant Hill, Locust Field, and Rock Springs Churches as well as from the community in which the church was organized.

Rev. J. R. Liner was the organizer and first pastor. The first baptising was on September 3, 1899. Nine candidates were baptized and received into the church.

On February 6, 1901 a new house of worship was dedicated and the name of the church changed to OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH. This building was erected just behind the present building and was provided with much hard work and sacrifice. Timber was donated by Levi Hall and brought from the head of Beaverdam Creek near Bearwallow. The timber was cut by J. R. Clark, Joe Cabe, Zeb Reno, and J. P. Green. They walked from the community to the woods, ten or more miles, to do their day's work.

This building was used for a number of years. It was blown down during a wind storm. A small wooden building was erected at the same site and used until the present brick building was erected in 1940 under the leadership of Rev. Bill (W. L.) Sorrells, pastor. The church continued to make progress. A new educational building and parsonage has been built.

In 1980 a ramp for the handicapped was installed on the right side of the church. During the summer of 1981 the bell tower was removed and a new steeple was erected. The original bell was placed inside the steeple, which was erected in memory of Lyda Young and paid for by his family. A four foot lighted cross was installed on the front of the Church in memory of Tommy Sorrells by his family. A team of 14 people was sent by the Church to West Virginia for a mission project.

Pastors serving the church as follows: 1907 J. R. Liner, followed by Mont Haynes and Mack Caldwell, 1909-15 Doug C. Davis, 1916 W. M. Pruett, followed by Thomas Erwin, 1921 E. W. Scott, followed by W. T. McFalls and H. P. Hicks, 1924-25 J. Yoder Davis, 1926-27 Claude Grogan, 1928 Oder Grogan, 1929-30 J. Yoder Davis, 1931-34 I. A. Rhinehart, 1935-36 F. H. Leatherwood, 1937 James Smith, 1938-39 Forest Ferguson, 1940

W. L. (Bill) Sorrells, 1941-44 J. Howard Hall, 1944-46 I. A. Rhinehart, 1947-52 A. M. Wyatt, 1953-55 R. M. Nix, 1956-57 Garrett Propest, 1958-59 Finley Fox, 1960-63 Leroy Smith, 1963-67 James Maloney, 1968-70 J. Ward Burch, 1971 no-listing, 1972-75 Thomas C. Trantham, 1976-79 Raymond Shumpert, 1980- Bruce Cayton.

Compiled by Gay Chambers

## PANTHER CREEK

For the founding of Panther Creek Baptist Church we have no records that give the details. We rely on the Associational minutes for the records we have.

It is fairly certain that Panther Creek was founded sometime in early 1884. At that time the Haywood Association had not been organized. The first mention of Panther Creek is in the Newfound minutes of 1884 with J. W. Hooker as pastor and the membership was 33. Twice again it is listed in Newfound in 1885 with J. W. Hooker, pastor and a membership of 40 and in 1886 with J. P. Yarborough, pastor and membership is 43.

When the Haywood Association was organized at Pleasant Hill in 1886, Panther Creek sent delegates and joined the Haywood Association that year. Delegates were sent to two associations in the same year in order to join Haywood. Membership has remained in Haywood Association even though no record of letter being sent is recorded for some years.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1887-1893 E. R. Treadway, 1894-95 M. C. Compton, 1896 T. J. Frisby, 1897-1900 D. C. Davis, 1901 L. M. Seagle, 1901-12 D. C. Davis but no letters were sent to Association, 1913-19 W. M. Hall. In 1913 membership was 62. 1920-25 D. C. Davis, 1926 No. pastor listed, 1927-28 J. Y. Davis, 1929-30 No listing, 1931 Forest Ferguson, 1932 J. Y. Davis, 1933-36 Dock Russell, 1937-39 J. Y. Davis, 1940-41 Forest Ferguson, 1942-45 Garfield Lindsey, 1946-48 J. Y. Davis, 1949 Dock Russell, 1950-51 Roy Webb, 1952-54 Pete Hicks, 1955 Lawrence Parker, 1956-61 Charles Messer, 1962 Roy Webb, 1963 no listing, 1964-66 James Elliot, 1967- D. D. (Dock) Russell.

Compiled in May 1976 by Thomas Erwin, historian

UPDATE: 1983

1982, August 22 Rev. D. D. (Dock) Russell retires having served the church 15 years.

1982, August 29 Rev. B. H. Turner called as pastor.

1982 A picnic shed was built.



## PLEASANT BALSAM

On October 3, 1879, a band of Christians met in the school house in the Pleasant Balsam community for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of Rev. Elijah Allison, moderator, W. Ensley, J. P. Herrin, and A. J. Herrin who served as clerk. Thirty-one people brought letters from Waynesville and Mt. Pleasant churches. Charter members were as follows: L. E. Snowden, R. T. Snyder, Roland McClure, D. C. Winchester, J. P. Brendle, J. A. Oxner, Alfred Smathers, Jesse Wooten, M. A. Snowden, Alice Winchester, Martha Winchester, Mary Wincherster, M. L. McClure, Hannah Smathers, L. L. Brendle, Mariah Murray, M. A. C. Murray, L. L. Murray, Rebecca Hoyle, Amy Hoyle, Sarah Smathers, Sarah Oxner, Nancy Soprells, J. F. Murray, Martha Wooten, Amanda Arrington, Nancy L. McClure, Celia J. Snyder, Martha Hoyle, Martha Smathers, and Nancy Phillips.

The moderator read the Articles of Faith and Church Covenant. The membership voted to accept these and sang "How Firm A Foundation." First pastor was Elijah Allison, first deacons were Roland McClure, J. P. Brendle and D. C. Winchester. The first church clerk was J. F. Murray.

Pleasant Balsam sent messengers to the Tuckaseegee Association for the first time in 1880-81 with Elijah Allison as pastor. Also in 1882-86 with E. D. Brendle as pastor. At the meeting of Tuckaseegee Association on August 12-15, 1886, being represented by S. H. Bryson, R. M. McClure, and J. P. Brendle as messengers, Pleasant Balsam, one of fourteen churches, presented a resolution to the association requesting letters of dismission from Tuckaseegee to form Haywood Association. This was on the third day, August 14, at 9:00 A.M. The resolution Committee asking for this move consisted of J. L. Morgan, J. G. Pulliam, and E. D. Brendle. The request was granted.

These churches sent delegates to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church (Clyde, First) which met September 23-28, 1886 for the purpose of organizing the Haywood Association. The same delegates and pastor from Pleasant Balsam were present for the organizing. There were 80 members of Pleasant Balsam reported in 1886 at the organizing of the Haywood Baptist Association.

The church held its services in the old school house at Saunook from 1879 until 1892. In August 1892 with M. C. Compton as pastor, steps were taken to erect a church house, a wooden structure completed in 1894 and used until 1938. Plans were then started to erect a brick structure which was completed and dedicated in 1942. Work was started on an educational plant in 1944. A small wooden parsonage was built while Doyle Miller was pastor and in 1968 a beautiful brick parsonage was completed.

Points of interest across the years:

1. The old timers always held business meetings on Saturday afternoon. NOTE: It was customary in all Baptist churches to have Saturday meetings. Some had it at 11:00 A.M. NO SUNDAY BUSINESS MEETINGS.
2. The Articles of Faith were read four times a year.
3. Members who missed church had to come and give cause. THIS WAS TRUE OF MANY BAPTIST CHURCHES.
4. Members who did wrong had to bring charges against self and ask forgiveness.
5. Rev. Frank Arrington was ordained July 26, 1891.
6. Rev. A. L. Beck and Rev. O. J. Beck are the only father-son pastors to serve the church. Rev. O. J. Beck served in 1962-65, 46 years after his father, A. L. Beck served in 1916.
7. In 1894 the church gave 35 cents to the orphanage and \$1.00 to missions.
8. In 1885 the church voted to pay the pastor \$40 per year and in 1893 they voted to pay \$50 per year.
9. In the old days members had to give to the church or be charged with covetousness.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1901 T. F. Arrington, 1902-03 no listing, 1904 J. T. Carson, 1905 J. M. Haynes, 1906 T. F. Arrington, 1907 W. M. Pruett, 1908 A. C. Bryson, 1909-10 T. F. Arrington, 1911 J. M. Haynes, 1912-13 no listing, 1914-15 A. C. Bryson, 1916-17 A. L. Beck, 1918-21 no listing, 1922 no minute printed, 1922-24 H. P. Hicks, 1923 no listing, 1924 Ham Hicks, 1925-30 L. J. Rogers, 1931-32 Thomas Erwin, 1933 Frank Leatherwood, 1934-42 Ben Cooke, 1943-44 W. L. Sorrells, 1945 W. H. Whitlock, 1946 Doyle Miller, 1947 Doyle Miller but not listed, 1948-56 J. M. Woodard, 1957 J. M. Woodard but not listed, 1958-59 Lawrence Fox, 1960-61 Hubert Bryson, 1962-65 O. J. Beck, 1966 O. J. Beck but not listed, 1967-70 Virgil Holloway, 1971 Bennett Walker served until 19 .

Compiled by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: 1979, September 30 the church observed it's centennial. Rev. W. L. Sorrells was guest speaker at the eleven o'clock service. Lunch followed at the Brotherhood building. The congregation gathered back at the church to view the contents of the corner stone. Some of the members told of events of early days of the church. Dedication service followed at the corner stone. The box was replaced to be re-opened again in fifty years.



## RATCLIFFE COVE

For about twenty years before the organization of a church, a Sunday school had been held in the community of Ratcliffe Cove. Robert Sorrells was the first superintendent, followed by A. M. Ratcliffe. Rev. M. C. Compton, a Baptist preacher of note in this county held the first revival meeting in the community. This meeting resulted in the organization of the Sunday school. In 1879, Rev. Elijah Allison and Rev. N. Bowen held a revival with some success.

In 1888 W. W. Wells, pastor of Waynesville Baptist Church, held a revival in the log school house. As a result of this meeting, there were several additions to the Waynesville church. At the close of the meeting, the Baptist membership of the community organized as a branch of the Waynesville Baptist Church. Albert Francis was elected as deacon. This arrangement continued with monthly meetings conducted by the pastors of Waynesville churches for some time. Rev. Millard Jenkins served 1890-92 and Rev. Whorton 1892-1897.

Following a revival by Rev. Whorton and Rev. M. R. N. Caldwell in 1897, the Baptist membership secured letters from the Waynesville Baptist Church to organize a Missionary Baptist Church. A presbytery was called consisting of Rev. J. M. Haynes, Chairman, Rev. M. R. N. Caldwell, clerk. Rev. Haynes preached the sermon setting forth the duties, mission and purpose of a Missionary Baptist Church. The organizational meeting was held in the home of Henry Liner. The following were charter members: J. Albert Francis, Josiah Francis, Mrs. Annie Francis, J. E. Francis, Mrs. T. L. Francis, W. L. Hawkins, Henry Liner, Mrs. Henry Liner, J. R. Liner, G. W. Liner, W. H. Liner, C. R. Liner, Elizabeth Liner Ratcliff, M. B. Davis, C. A. Davis, Mrs. C. A. Davis, Mrs. N. J. Boyd, Mrs. Catherine Dyer, Mrs. J. N. Ratcliffe, James Williams, Mrs. James Williams, and T. L. Gaddy. After a Covenant and Articles of Faith were adopted, the presbytery pronounced the body a duly organized church under the name of New Hope Baptist Church. In 1898 the name was changed to RATCLIFFE COVE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The first building was on land donated by J. N. and Mary Ratcliffe on a hill above the present building. It was made of wood with most of the labor donated by members and valued at \$100.00. The deed is recorded in Book 16, Page 338. The new building was dedicated November 4, 1899, sermon delivered by Rev. E. M. Lightfoot and

dedicatory prayer by Rev. Elijah Allison. The building committee was Albert Francis, Josiah Francis, and Billy Hawkins, trustees were T. L. Francis, J. A. Francis and G. W. Liner. The first deacons were J. A. Francis, Josiah Francis, William Hawkins and G. W. Liner

Six men have gone out from this church to preach the gospel. Two were licensed: Fred Ratcliff and Ben Davis on August 15, 1925. Four were ordained as follows: J. R. Liner August 27, 1899, Arthur Francis September 1, 1938, Jarvis Underwood May 9, 1940, and Pender Robertson April 29, 1950.

The church has occupied three different buildings since it left the little log school house. The first one has already been described, the second building, the one beside the present modern structure was erected in 1934 during the pastorate of Thomas Erwin. All of the members who were able came together on Monday morning, dismantled the old building, moved it down to the new location and had the new structure sufficiently completed to have services the next Sunday. The building committee was George Liner, Hardy Liner, P. V. Phillips, R. C. Francis and Frank Leopard.

In 1952, during the pastorate of Gay Chambers, the present building was erected at a cost of approximately \$40,000.00. The building committee was Harry Mashburn, Chairman, Hugh Francis, Raymond Blanton, James C. Messer, Walter Underwood, Frank Leopard, and R. C. Francis. Rev. Chambers served until 1968, seventeen years. In 1961 two new wings were added to the present sanctuary at a cost of more than \$30,000.00 and dedicated October 15, 1961. Rev. Chambers preached the dedication sermon.

In 1957 an anonymous donor founded a church library in honor of Mr. George Liner. In 1968 a beautiful parsonage was erected. During 1976-77 a ramp was built at the back to accommodate the handicapped, the inside of the fellowship building was redone.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1897-1904 M. R. N. Caldwell, 1904-05 J. F. Carson, 1905-08, T. F. Arrington, 1908-14 W. M. Pruett, 1914-15 J. R. Liner, 1915-17 L. B. White, 1920-23 L. B. White, 1917-20 A. V. Joyner, 1923-24 H. P. Hicks, 1924-25 1937-41, 1942-46 O. F. Burnette, 1925-28 P. C. Hicks, 1929-33, 1934-36 Thomas Erwin, 1933-34 I. A. Rhinehart, 1941-42 J. Howard Hall, 1946-47 Elmer Greene, 1947-49, 1950-51 R. P. McCracken, 1949-50 B. N. Rogers, 1950-68 Gay Chambers, 1968-72 Ray Justice, 1973-76 Andy Raines, 1976-81 Phil Moore, 1981- Lewis Smith.

About 1951 when people began to build homes around the Barber Orchard on the mountain east of Balsam Gap, parents saw the need of having Sunday School teaching and public religious training. It was unsafe for walking to Pleasant Balsam and steps were taken to erect a simple building to use for Sunday School. In August 1952 steps were taken to organize a church for Baptists living in the vicinity.

On August 3, 1952 a presbytery consisting of Rev. Elmer Greene, Associational Missionary, Rev. Carl Weaver, Rev. Avery Peek met for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. Letters from various churches were presented and the following became charter members: Carolyn Arrington, Mrs. Alvin Arrington, Bobby Bryson, James Bryson, Margaret Bryson, Mrs. Ethel Bryson, Walter Bryson, Mrs. Margaret Eavenson, Glenda Eavenson, Billy Moore, Patsy Moore, Mrs. Dora Rabb, Dorothy Rabb, Don Smathers, Mrs. Frank Smathers, Gordon Smathers, Mrs. Betty Smathers.

The first pastor was W. C. Weaver and first deacons were Garrett Hill, Don Smathers, and Gordon Smathers.

The church joined the Haywood Association upon its organization in August 1952 and has been represented at every association since. The first messengers were Mrs. Don Smathers, Ethel Bryson, and Mrs. Frank Crawford. The Association met at Calvary, Dellwood, and Olivet on August 19-20, 1952.

In 1952 Sunday School enrollment was 74 and Don Smathers was Superintendent. In 1958 church membership was 113 and total mission offerings were \$147.00.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1952 W. C. Weaver, 1953 Bill Edd Hasket, 1954-55 Will Pharr, 1956 Joe Williams, 1957 no listing, 1958-61 Oscar Beck, 1962-64 Delos Hoyle, 1965-70 Glen Nation, 1971 4 months Jimmy Burress, 1972-74 Lewis Ensley, 1975 no listing, 1976-79 Danny Long, 1980-82 Charles Shuler.

Improvements on the facility have been: carpeting the floors, installation of restrooms, building a fellowship hall, installing a furnace and water system.



## RICHLAND

The Richland Baptist Church appears for the first time in the Haywood Baptist Association Minutes in 1929. Luther F. Clark was the pastor. Membership was 49. It did not send a letter to the Association in 1930, and in 1931. Since that time the church has been rather regular in sending letters to the Association each year.

Due to the fact that the original records became lost it is hard to get the exact information about the beginning of the church. However, it seems rather certain that the church had its beginning about 1925 when the people of the community near the depot in Waynesville began meeting in an old building on the banks of Richland Creek. In 1926 a movement was started which resulted in the organizing of a Baptist Church. The first deacons were Will McClure, Chet Shuler, and F. H. Davis.

The church entered a building program in 1955 that resulted in the erection of the present brick structure. Present membership is 151.

This information compiled in October 1970 by Thomas Erwin

Pastors served the church as follows: 1935 Luther Clark, 1936 Columbus Queen, 1937-38 Nando Stephens, 1939-40 Luther Clark, 1941 T. C. Heatherly, 1942-43 Daniel Smith, 1944-45 John Finger, 1946 Robert Harris, 1947 Luther Clark, 1948-51 Ben Cook, 1952 Jarvis Underwood, 1953 Edgar Willix, 1954 C. L. Allen, 1955-64 and 1973 Edgar Willix, 1966 Eldon Hall, 1967-68 Doyle Miller, 1969-70 Ricky Mason, 1971-72 Robert Galloway, 1974-75 Jerry Parks, 1976-78 Lester Poteate, 1979- Roy Wood.

The church has continuously improved the interior and exterior of the building.



## RIVERSIDE

About 1898, Rev. Anderson Inman conducted Sunday School in the school house during warm weather. Between 1900-08 others became interested. Union literature was used. In 1909 more interest was shown with even unsaved seeing the need for religious teaching for their children and serving as teachers. Usually there was no one to open with prayer, the Superintendent led the audience in reading the Sunday School lesson responsively and they would say the Lord's Prayer in unison. Even with that, there was reverence and great interest in the Scriptures. Services were in the morning in summer and the afternoon in winter until 1922.

Rev. John Sitton of Jackson County held a very successful revival in January 1911. Great numbers were saved, including teachers and officials of Sunday School who had not found Christ. Rev. R. A. Sentelle, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church and Rev. Sitton baptized candidates choosing the Baptist Church into the Bethel Church. Services were still in the school house for all Christians. On Saturday, September 6, 1919 the Baptists met at 7:30 PM for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of R. A. Sentelle; J. M. Haynes, Moderator; S. J. Williams, Clerk; B. N. Rogers, and D. H. Byers. Charter members from Bethel Church were: Newton Chambers, James H. Chambers, Corley M. Chambers, Mrs. Newton Chambers, Mrs. James Chambers, Virlee Chambers, Gertrude Chambers, Mollie Chambers, Mrs. Horace Ledbetter, and Nell Chambers. The Articles of Faith were read, explained and unanimously adopted. The body was declared a duly organized Baptist Church and voted to call the new church Ivy Hill Baptist Church. The first person to join the new church was Mrs. Althea Murray. The first pastor was Rev. B. N. Rogers.

Ivy Hill Baptist Church sent a letter to the Haywood Baptist Association in 1920 which met at Pleasant Hill (Clyde) and appears under that name only once. No letter was sent to the Association in 1921.

There were so few Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists to finance the building of a house of worship, it was decided to build a semi-union building to use by all. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Reece gave the land where the present church now stands. The title was made January 31, 1922. The building committee, Althea Murray, Mrs. J. P. Reece and Thomas Erwin, led in erecting a building with money, materials, and labor donated



by the people regardless of whether they were Christians. Trustees were Corley Chambers, Western Hargrove, and Thomas Erwin. The deed, made to the three denominations and recorded is in Book 61, page 497.

The building consisted of an auditorium and two rooms in the vestibule. At the first service on February 19, 1922 the name was changed to RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH. Marvin Mann, Sunday School Superintendent, led the first devotional service. The building was dedicated June 1922, without debt, total cost was \$2,000. Rev. Escrage, pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church, delivered the dedication sermon. The three pastors preached once a month. The Methodists and Presbyterians have long since ceased to use the building, however, the title stands as it was originally made.

The church sent a letter to the Association in 1922 which met with North Canton on August 24-25. Messengers were James H. Chambers and Molly Chambers. No minutes were published for 1922 but Riverside has sent letters every year since.

In 1943 the church building was moved several feet back from the river and placed on a rock wall making it level with the highway. In 1953-54 extensive remodeling was done.

Two ministers have been ordained by Riverside Church - Thomas Erwin on February 16, 1924 and Gay Chambers on March 18, 1933.

Pastors served as follows: 1919-21 (Ivy Hill) B. N. Rogers, 1922-34 R. A. Sentelle, May 1934-39 Gay Chambers, 1939-40 Thomas Erwin, 1940-41 W. L. Sorrells, 1941-42 Thomas Erwin, 1942-47 Gay Chambers, 1947-50 B. N. Rogers, 1950-53 Thomas Erwin, 1953-56 Paul Grogan, 1956-57 George Mehaffey, 1957-58 Robert Clark, 1958-66 Doyle Miller, 1967-69 Robert Clark, 1969-72 James Estep, 1973 no listing, 1974 Larry Jones is still pastor.

Submitted by Thomas Erwin

UPDATE: In 1977-78 work began on the building of a new sanctuary which was completed and dedicated at Home Coming in 1980. The sanctuary will seat 350. The old building was converted into 25 classrooms. Total cost of renovation was \$250,000.

Two men have been ordained - Jesse Hollingsworth on November 10, 1968 and Danny Whitner on December 31, 1978, bringing the number ordained to four.

## ROCK HILL

During the spring and summer of 1960, Baptists in the community met for worship in a building they had purchased. They made a survey and found there were prospects of a church. On September 25, 1960 at 3:00 PM an organizational meeting was held with the following serving on the organizing council: Dr. W. Thomas Lane, T. E. Robinett, Thomas Erwin, Wayne Sorrells, Wayne Willett, and J. G. Miller, ministers and John Ruff, Roy Hightower, and Earl Mashburn, deacons.

Thomas Erwin served as Moderator, J. G. Miller as Clerk, W. Thomas Lane led the prayer and T. E. Robinett gave the address.

The reasons for organizing a church were presented by Bro. Don Miller as follows: 1. the distance from other churches, 2. the people not in church anywhere, and 3. the desire to be a Missionary Baptist Church.

The Council called for the presentation of letters for membership and a vote was taken for all persons received by October 23, 1960 to be charter members. They were as follows: Mrs. Martha Messer, Ulus Clark, Eula Clark, Joe Clark, Norma Clark, Harvey Brewer, Margie Reeves, Don Miller, Mrs. Don (Modena) Miller, Dean Miller, June Miller, Donna Jean Miller, Boone Messer, Elease Messer, Louise Boring, Edgar Boring, Edna Boring, Edgar Boring, Jr., Dianne Boring, Dennie Boring, Walter Chambers, Mae Chambers, Tommy Clark, Joyce Clark, James Long, Mrs. Alma Long, Miss Lucie Long, Miss Mary Ruth Messer, Elmer Pressley, Mrs. Jessie R. Messer, Mr. James Messer, John Wesley Chambers, Mrs. Francis Pressley, Walker Chambers, Bertha Chambers, William Lawrence Chambers, Carroll W. Chambers, Ray Willett, Ilene Willett, and Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Dixon.

Moderator Erwin read the Church Covenant and some of the Articles of Faith. He called for a vote of acceptance and it was accepted. Members came forward for prayer.

The Moderator declared the church duly organized and ready to do the business of a Baptist Church. The first order was to declare the name to be adopted as ROCK HILL BAPTIST CHURCH. Rev. Carl Cooke, who had been preaching for the congregation was called as first pastor, Elease Messer was elected Clerk, and Margie Reeves Treasurer. All voting was unanimous.

Rev. T. E. Robinett brought a stirring message on "Great Christian Living".

The church was received under the watchcare of the Haywood Association August 23, 1961 and sent a letter to the Association in 1962. Membership was 78, Sunday School average attendance was 58, Vacation Bible School enrollment was 35, Training Union attendance was 35. \$285.00 was given to missions of all kinds. The pastor in 1962 was Lloyd V. Fish, Jr.

Compiled in June 1963 by Thomas Erwin

Pastors served the church as follows: 1961 Carl Cooke, 1962-63 Lloyd Fish, 1964 Ted Reeves, 1965-66 Carl Presnell, 1967 Robert Marshall, 1968 Lloyd V. Roberts, 1969-70 James Kirkpatrick, 1972-73 Rufus Edmisten, 1974-78 Frank Harvey, 1978-79 Carl Sizemore, 1979-82 T. M. Gibson.

During 1968 a parsonage was erected and in 1978-79 the auditorium was renovated with choir loft and baptistry added.

## ROCK SPRINGS

In 1877 William West and Mrs. Rebecca O'Neil requested Rev. E. A. Edwards of South Carolina, their former home county, to come to Upper Crabtree and preach for one Sunday each month. Through the efforts of these three a church was organized the spring of 1878 and named New Prospect Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of Rev. E. A. Edwards, Wilson Nash, Marcus Hayes, and Marion Ratcliff. Rev. Edwards was pastor.

An unfinished cabin belonging to Jack Liner was used and later that year a new log house was built down the valley. The church joined the Newfound Association in Madison County and appears in the minutes in 1879 with 36 members. It appears in 1880-81.

Another building was erected about one mile down the creek, near a spring which became known as "Rock Spring". The church, school and community goes by that name.

On April 19, 1884, a presbytery was called consisting of Elders C. B. Mingus, Milas C. Compton, A. B. Thomas, and Pinkney R. Young and met at the new building used for church and school. The church organized and was named ROCK SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH. The following were charter members from New Prospect: H. Liner, Lura Liner, Margaret Liner, Melinda Hill, Leander Liner, Jr.; from Crabtree Baptist Church were D. J. L. Haynes, P. R. Young, Sarah L. Young, L. P. McCracken, Fannie W. McCracken, W. P. Childers, Nancy Childers, J. N. McGee, Harriet McGee, J. Marion McCracken, E. B. McCracken, J. M. L. McCracken, Sophia McCracken, Mary McCracken, Sallie McCracken, A. J. Justice, Amelia Justice, Annie Justice, Belle Justice, Mattie Justice, W. R. Medford, Laura Medford, James Sanford, O. O. Sanford, John B. Ross, Harriet C. Ross, Sarah Fowler, The remaining members of New Prospect brought letters later and several more from Crabtree came later. The first pastor was Elijah Allison.

Rock Springs joined Tuckaseegee Association that fall and appears in the minutes of 1884 with Elijah Allison pastor and a membership of 64.

On August 14, 1886, Rock Springs was one of fourteen churches from Haywood dismissed from Tuckaseegee Association to form the Haywood Association. Rock Springs was represented at the organization of Haywood Baptist Association. Rev. R. A. Sentelle, pastor of Rock Springs was elected first Moderator. Rock Springs reported 83 members. The first meeting of the new Association after it was organized was with Rock Springs, August 25-28, 1887 and has met with Rock Springs the following years: 1887, 1894, 1904,



## SPRING HILL

Prior to 1908 the Baptists of the Henson Cove community often met for worship in the little Spring Hill school house. At that early date they held membership in the Locust Field Baptist Church of Canton, now First Baptist Church. It was a long way to attend church in Canton, with travel being by wagon and buggies.

On Saturday, August 8, 1908, they assembled in the school house for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church. The organizing presbytery consisted of the following: Rev. W. H. Woodall, Rev. R. A. Sentelle, Rev. T. L. Brown, pastor of Locust Field, Rev. J. M. Haynes, Rev. Isaac Norris, Rev. J. R. Greene, Pastor of Pleasant Hill, now First Baptist Church of Clyde. This presbytery was organized with W. H. Woodall, moderator and J. R. Greene, clerk

Those who came as charter members were R. P. Grogan, T. R. Queen, Cynthia Henson, Mrs. Emma Henson, Gussie Henson, Kenneth Sellers, Solomon J. Williams, Isaiah Williams, Bell Williams, Minnie Williams, Cora Williams, Louisa Grogan, Leah Stamey, J. F. Henson, Mrs. Harriett Henson, Mrs. Columbus Henson, R. R. Mehaffey, Mrs. Julia Mehaffey, Miss Delina Mease, G. M. Stamey, Mrs. Kate Stamey, and Mrs. Alice Sellers. Most of these came by letter from Locust Field, while a few came from other churches. The Articles of Faith and the Church Covenant were read and adopted. The church was declared duly organized and it went into a business session. The church voted to call the new organization the SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH. They called Rev. J. M. Haynes to be the first pastor and Solomon J. Williams as first clerk. Immediately, the church voted to enter the Haywood Baptist Association. The Association met that year with Bethel Baptist Church on August 20-23. Messengers were Solomon J. Williams, R. P. Grogan, and J. F. Henson. Spring Hill did not send representatives to the association in 1914, 1923, 1927, and 1928. During the history of the church the Association has met with Spring Hill in 1917, 1921, 1938, 1950, 1961, and 1976.

The newly organized church had no house of worship. At the next business meeting, September 6, 1908, steps were taken to erect a church house. The building committee was composed of: R. P. Grogan, J. F. Henson, J. K. Sellers, W. I. Mease, W. J. Holland, S. J. Williams, I. L. Henson, J. H. Cogburn, and Rev. J. M. Haynes, pastor. The members worked faithfully with their hands and gave of their meager means to erect a house



of worship. Within a year, a small one-roomed framed building was erected. This building served as a house of worship for forty years except for a few minor additions. In the late thirties Sunday School rooms were put under the building and other additions to the back of the church. About 1940, a furnace was put in the basement to serve as central heating.

The congregation began to grow materially and the people began to see the need of a larger place of worship. In 1940, steps were taken to create a building fund. A building committee consisted of George Henson, John Shipman, Lewis Chambers and Owen Murray. It was an imposing structure very similar to the present building. On Saturday, January 13, 1951, at 1:00 A.M., this beautiful structure was completely destroyed by fire of an undetermined origin with a loss of \$50,000 and with an insurance of only \$30,000. The good people of Long's Methodist Church gladly gave the Baptist congregation the use of their building to hold services in at different hours of worship from those used by the Methodists. This was gladly accepted by the Spring Hill church.

Steps to rebuild were taken immediately. The people rallied to the occasion with a zeal marvelous to behold. Using the insurance, a loan, and all the means the people could afford, work was started on the building within a month. The first service was held in it August 23, 1951, just eight months and ten days after the destructive fire.

A parsonage was erected in 1954-55 at a cost of \$20,000.00. To build two beautiful church houses and a modern parsonage within nine years, and to close with no indebtedness, all by a small membership, speaks volumes concerning their sacrificial spirit and the marvelous grace of God who made it all possible.

Pastors served Spring Hill as follows: 1908-13 J. M. Haynes, 1913-16 W. W. Pless, 1916-18 E. J. Morgan, 1918-22 B. N. Rogers, 1922-24 Ham Hicks, 1924-26 Thomas Erwin, 1926-27 Claude Grogan, 1927-March to 28 Thomas Erwin, 1928 Ben Heatherly, May 4, 1929-30 P. C. Hicks, 1930-32 Lucius Rogers, 1932-33 M. C. Radcliff, 1933 R. T. Reynolds, 1935-36 Ham Hicks, 1936-38 Oder Burnette, 1938 A. T. Medford, 1939 Ham Hicks, 1939-45 Thomas Erwin, 1945-46 Howard Hall, 1946-54 Gay Chambers, 1954-56 George Huggins, 1956-58 M. T. Gales, 1959-63 W. Thomas Lane, 1964-67 Burl Ashley, 1967-78 F. Gilbert Barnhill, 1979-82 Ray Hooper, November 21, 1982 - Jackie Owenby.



## SUNNY POINT

The Sunny Point Baptist Church was organized May 24, 1938 at a meeting held at the home of C. N. Carpenter. Fifteen charter members brought their letters from various churches to form the new organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Girdwood Smathers gave the land for the church and cemetery, while Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Rhinehart gave the right-of-way to the church. The first structure was a frame building built by free labor and materials which was given by those who were interested in seeing a building in the community.

Rev. Isaac Rhinehart was the first pastor, and from the beginning God blessed the ministry of the church. In the fall of 1938 a great revival swept the community and by December the membership had reached 42. This growth continued until 1952 the Sunday School attendance had reached 135. The Rev. Robert Swanger was pastor at this time.

Begun in 1956 and completed in 1957 a new brick building was erected under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Joe Medford. This was the educational building to which the sanctuary was added in 1964. Then in 1968, while the Rev. Carl Pointer was pastor, a brick parsonage was built. More property was acquired during 1978-79.

On March 28, 1969 a week-end youth-led revival began at Sunny Point. This revival turned into the greatest revival in this section, spreading and reaching youth of other counties. It lasted until April 15. For each service the house was packed and many stood outside. The Rev. Ricky Mason and Rev. Frank Harvey were the evangelists for these services. At least 372 persons made decisions for Christ either by conversion or dedication. Also, at least 16 persons surrendered to preach the gospel and some to be missionaries.

Pastors who have served are: Isaac Rhinehart, A. J. Medford, Doyle Miller, Howard Hall, George Ingle, Maurice Banks, T. C. Heatherly, B. N. Rogers, Robert Swanger, Joe Medford, Richard Horn, Eugene Land, Wheeler Brown, and Carl Pointer. Ordained to preach was Charles Cable and Frank Harvey, while Charles Rector was licensed by the church.

UPDATE 1981: Other pastors were: 1970-73 James Hefner, 1973-78 Cecil Fox, 1978-79 Philip Broyles, 1979-81 Clyde Rhinehart, 1982- Gay Chambers.



## VICTORY

Early records were lost so little is known concerning facts and dates about the beginning of the Victory Church which was known as Peachtree. This information is furnished by some of the older members.

For several years Sunday School was held in the Peachtree School building by both the Methodist and Baptists. On July 7, 1937 the Haywood County Board of Education sold the Peachtree school building to the Methodist and Baptist Churches for a sum of \$51.00. Two years later the Baptist Church was admitted to the Haywood Association.

Bolden Hartgrove and Luther Clark were largely responsible for helping to organize the church which had 13 charter members. Rev. Hartgrove became the first pastor, Rufus Finger was the first Sunday School superintendent, and Grace Mehaffey was the first clerk. First three ordained deacons were: Jim Miller, Dewey Sutton, and Rufus Finger.

In the summer of 1955 when the Baptists sold their interest in the Peachtree building to the Methodist they began the present building known as the VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH. Land was donated by Mr. Ben Moody. While the building was being erected the church met in the basement of the home of Fred Emory. The first service in the new building was held in the basement, Rev. John Ralph Willis, pastor brought the message from Esther 2:7.

First Deacons were: Claude Trantham, Ben Moody, Jim Cagle, Fred Emory, Oliver Finger, Jerry Nelson, and Ralph Hall.

Training Union was organized November 6, 1955 with James Hall, Director. WMU was organized one year later with Mrs. Oliver Finger as president.

The only known member ordained by the church as a minister is Rev. Rufus Finger.

In November 1955 the church purchased land from Ben Moody for a parking lot.

Pastors served as follows: Bolden Hartgrove, Luther Clark, Joe Williams, Jarvis Underwood, Nando Stephens, Coleman Brown, Frank Early, John Ralph Willis, Robert Swanger, Billy Lee, M. H. Raby who served until 1973, Davis Flemmons 1974-81 and on May 10, 1981 William R. (Rusty) Pector was called as pastor serving until 19 .

Victory continued to improve their physical plant. An educational building was built during 1977-78, Fellowship hall and kitchen 1978-79 and paved parking lot.



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WAYNESVILLE

Waynesville Baptist Church was organized on August 1, 1823. The presbytery was composed of Rev. Humphrey Posey, Rev. Joseph Eyers, and Adam Corn. Rev. Posey was a missionary for the Cherokee Indians in Western North Carolina. The church was composed of 27 members. Names of charter members are not available.

The first meeting place was located at a point on the east side of Richland Creek. The lot was deeded by Robert Love on August 6, 1825 to the trustees, Banister Turner, William Welch, and Ninian Edmonston. Recorded in Book R. page 279.

The next place of worship was on what is now Church Street opposite Ray's store near the Catholic church. Aunt Masinda Crimes, who lived to be 99, recalled that the new meeting house was erected before the War Between the States.

Services were usually held once a month but in 1895 the three times a month schedule was put into force. At this time the church received aid from the Home Board to supplement the pastors's salary.

Waynesville Baptist Church belonged to the French Broad Association until in 1829 when the Tuckaseegee Association was formed. The membership was 36 and the first messengers to Tuckaseegee were Henry Flott, Thomas Woodfin, and John Howell. This church played an important part in the organization of the Haywood Association in 1886. At Sugar Fork Baptist Church in Macon. August 14, 1886 the Committee on Resolutions composed of J. L. Morgan, Chairman, J. G. Pulliam, and E. E. Brendle from Waynesville Baptist Church read the following resolution: "The Committee on Resolution from District No. One (Haywood) being satisfied that all churches belonging to this body from that district, desire to go into the organization of a Haywood County Baptist Association, 9 having asked dismissal by letter, one by delegate, the other four having so expressed their desire at the Haywood Union meeting by delegates and pastors. The delegates from said district having asked letters for all, and believing that the letters of said churches would have asked the same had they reached us, we recommend that letters of dismissal be granted to all the churches of said district to take effect when organized into said Haywood Association." Respectfully submitted.

The pastor in 1886 was W. W. Wells, who was also pastor of Crabtree. The Waynesville church sent the following messengers to the organizational meeting of the

Haywood Association: W. W. Wells, L. M. Welch, William Liner, Sr., William Liner, Jr., and M. H. Miller. Membership at that time was 124.

The Tuckasegee Association met in Waynesville in August 1857 and 1875. The Haywood Association has met with the church in 1889, 1895, 1905, 1929, 1942, 1956, 1965, 1973, and 1978.

The church has had remarkable growth since it moved to the present location in 1904. Membership at that time was 270, in 1967 membership is 945. Value of the property in 1905 was \$10,000, value including pastor's home in 1967 is \$623,000. Gifts to missions in 1905 were \$185, in 1967 \$28,000.

Pastors serving prior to 1886 included: Humphrey Posey, William Haynes, John Paynes, Billy Crawford, John Ammons. C. B. Mingus, Thomas Henson and E. N. Dabney (having served before the Civil War), R. H. Moody, E. D. Brandle in 1867. C. B. Mingus 1868-75, C. M. Green 1876-77, Elijah Allison 1878-81, N. B. Cobb 1882-84.

Since moving to the present location the first sanctuary (one of the best in Western Carolina) has been replaced. In 1952 the present sanctuary was completed and dedicated during the pastorate of Brodas E. Wall. An educational unit had been built during the 1930's but has been replaced in 1962 by a new unit consisting of 61 rooms costing \$259,000. During 1967 the church built a new pastorium costing some \$50,000.00.

Pastors serving the church: 1884 Elijah Allison, 1885-January to April J. M. C. Luke, 1885-88 W. W. Wells, 1889-93 George Wharton, 1893-96 M. A. Jenkins, 1896-97 George Wharton, J. S. Jones a part of 1897, 1897-99 J. T. Jenkins, 1899-1901 E. M. Lightfoot, 1901-02 C. M. Billings, 1902-06 B. W. N. Simms, 1907-08 F. B. Raymond, 1909-14 J. M. McManaway, April 12 to Sept. 1914 J. C. Stillans, Nov. 1914- to Jan. 1, 1921 A. V. Joyner, April 3, 1921-Nov. 4, 1923 R. H. Herrin, Feb. '24 to Nov. 1926 C. T. Tew, Jan. 9, 1927 to Dec. 8, 1929 G. A. Martin, June 28, 1930- to Feb. 28, 1938 H. W. Baucum, July 15, 1938 to Aug. 18, 1940 J. S. Hopkins, Nov. 3, 1940 to Aug. 27, 1944 H. G. Hammett, Oct. 8, 1944 to Aug. 13, 1950 L. G. Elliott, Sept. 27, 1950 to Sept. 1, 1953 Brodas Wall, Jan. 1, 1954 to Jan. 1965 T. E. Robinson, June 10, 1965 to 1968 Curtis Burge, 1969-73 James Maples, 1974-79 Gary Hearon, August 1, 1980 Called Dr. Hugh Garner. March 1975 called Don Norris as Music Director. January 4, 1981 called Charles (Chip) Miller as Minister of Education. Sanctuary renovated during 1976-78. Fellowship hall renovated 1983.

## WELCOME HILL

On May 20, 1950 a group of interested Baptists met at the home of Lawrence Waldrop in the Queentown section of Canton for the purpose of organizing a missionary Baptist Church.

The presbytery consisted of Rev. T. C. Heatherly, Ben Green, Paul Howell, and Raymond Queen. Twenty four people presented their names and became charter members as follows: Raymond Queen, Paul Howell, Bessie Queen, Rebecca Howell, Florence Howell, Vinson Shipman, Bonnie Shipman, Patsy Queen, Joan Queen, Doris Jean Howell, Elwood Howell, Carl Trull, Mrs. Carl Trull, Clarence Trull, Thelma Trull, Mrs. Horace Teague, Tommy Howell, Lawrence Waldrop, Mrs. Lawrence Waldrop, Betty Lou Shipman, Ben Green, Mrs. Ben Green, Ellen Shipman, Carleen Trull.

The name chosen was WELCOME HILL BAPTIST CHURCH. One of the charter members, Mrs. Florence Howell, is 90 years old at this writing (June 1976). Rev. T. C. Heatherly was called as the first pastor. The first service was held in a building that was already under construction, August 20, 1950. The women of the church organized a WMC and became very active in cooking and preparing suppers and the proceeds went toward completing the new building, which was accomplished in about two years. There were several additions during the next two years.

The land where the church plant stands was purchased from Mrs. Dillon Taylor.

The church was taken into the Haywood Association August 20, 1958 held with Bethel Baptist Church. The first messengers were Vinson Shipman, Wayne Willett, pastor, Mrs. Florence Howell and Mrs. Sharp.

In 1968 many improvements were made on the church plant and grounds. In 1972 many improvements were made on the parking lot such as paving.

Pastors serving the church: 1950-52 T. C. Heatherly, 1952-53 Zeb McDaris, 1953-57 William House, 1957-60 Wayne Willett, 1960-61 Samuel Fless, 1961-62 Lee Secrest, 1963-71 Carl Cook, 1971-76 Ray Willett.

Submitted by Mrs. Paul Howell & Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Queen, 1976

UPDATE: 1981

1977-78 Guy Grogan, 1978-79 Dwight Banks, 1980- J. B. Heatherly

1981 Dedicated new fellowship hall.





## WEST CANTON

The West Canton Baptist Church was started through the efforts of a Methodist preacher by the name of Warren who felt led to have religious services under an apple tree in the Wells Town section of West Canton. At first, no one thought of organizing a church but after a few services, the people secured a little two-roomed house, which the first worshipers called the "Sheep Pen". They bought seats from a skating rink at \$5 each. The pulpit was made from scrap lumber. A union Sunday school was started. The Baptists began to see the possibilities for a church. The following preachers preached from time to time: Frank Arrington, Sam Hall, Rev. Parham, Thad Jimison, and Luther Clark.

On December 31, 1916, the Baptists met in a little house for the purpose of organizing a Missionary Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of Rev. William (Uncle Bill) Pruitt, Rev. J. M. Haynes, and Rev. S. J. Williams. Bro. Pruitt was Moderator, Bro. Williams, Clerk, and Bro. Haynes delivered the message.

The following people presented letters and became charter members: P. C. Hicks, C. V. Miller, Annie Haley, M. L. Frady, Margaret Haley, Ida McClure, Etta Ingle, John Kimmons, J. A. Inman, E. F. Pressley, Clara Moore, Gertie Hicks, Elluce Miller, Blanche Haley, Lula Creed, C. R. Lunsford, Edna Garren, Ada Johnson, Mandy Grooms, Mrs. John Kimmons, Dorothy Pressley, Mary Mason, B. K. Miller, C. N. Sanders, H. P. Hicks, William Kerley, John Early, Milly Grooms, E. B. Moore, Mrs. N. E. Kerley, Eva Johnson, Mattie Hicks, and Lula Johnson. The Articles of Faith and Church Covenant were read and voted to accept unanimously. The Moderator then declared the body a duly organized Baptist church. The name adopted was the WEST CANTON BAPTIST CHURCH. The first pastor called was William Pruitt, first Church Clerk was C. N. Sanders, first deacons were P. C. Hicks and M. L. Frady. These were joined by W. L. Lamb, Andy McGee, F. C. Mehaffey, and William Kerley.

On February 4, 1917 the new church observed the Lord's Supper for the first time. On May 27, 1917 a letter was prepared to send to the Paywood Baptist Association asking for membership. The messengers appointed were P. C. Hicks, William Kerley, John Kimmons, and H. M. Hicks. The Association met with Spring Hill Baptist Church on August 23, 24, 25. West Canton's credentials were accepted and it was

voted into the Association in the afternoon session of the first day.

Membership increased rapidly and it was not long until the little "Sheep Pen" was too small to accommodate the crowds. On April 3, 1918, the church elected a building committee with W. W. Fless chairman, and a finance committee of John Early and W. D. Kerly. These two committees met jointly to formulate ways and means of erecting a new church house. The church voted to erect a wooden building 32 by 38 feet which was completed by January 1919.

West Canton has been a soul-winning church from the beginning. There has been steady and rapid growth in membership. It started with 33 charter members and in 1958 there were 556 resident members. Records show that 850 people have been baptized into the membership from 1916 to 1958, leading the Association during 6 different years. The financial records show: 1917 pastors salary \$33.93, paid to all purposes \$58.86, Missions \$.00; 1919 pastor's salary \$75.00, building and repairs \$1000.00, Missions \$7.94; 1957-58 budget \$14,293.50, Missions \$1,039.23. In addition, the struggling church was engaged in four building programs including the parsonage. The present structure is brick, modern, and well equipped. There is a full-time pastor and value of church property is \$150,000.

Sunday School enrollment in 1917 was 65, in 1958 396. PYFU enrollment in 1931 was 77. The first WMS was reported in 1929 with an enrollment of 8, in 1958 enrollment is 80.

The following men have been ordained to the ministry: P. C. Hicks, Ham Hicks, Frank Early, Bill Able, Robert Swanger, Marshall Raby, Garnett Jameson, Clyde Rhinehart, Harry Pressley, Harrison Benfield, and C. V. Brown. Others have been licensed.

Pastors served the church as follows: 1916-20 W. M. Pruitt, 1920-21 W. M. Hall, 1921-25 B. N. Rogers, 1925-28 P. C. Hicks, 1928-30 L. J. Rogers, 1930-31 J. S. Stansberry, 1931-32 I. A. Rhinehart, 1932-37 P. C. Hicks, 1937-38 J. R. Liner, 1938-39 B. N. Rogers, 1939-41 F. H. Leatherwood, 1941-49 C. H. Greene, 1949-55 Otto Parham, 1955-57 M. H. Hall, 1957- Forest P. Blankenship.

Submitted By Forest P. Blankenship, January 1958  
Forest Blankenship served until December 1962. 1963-66 Otto Parham, 1967-70 Ted Francis, Completed a new parsonage and occupied by Nov. 1969. 1971-78 Eugene Akins.

Updated by Thomas Erwin  
1978- Wallace Britt. Much improvement has been made between 1976 and 1983.

## WHITE OAK

It appears that Pigeon Baptist Church was organized in 1871, taking the name from Pigeon River, near which it stands. Those responsible for the organization of the church were Rev. David Fisher, T. O. Allen, J. Y. Snelson, Abraham Frisby, B. C. Duckett, and Jack Hunter. Because of incomplete records, it is hard to determine whether these were deacons working with Rev. Fisher, or charter members.

Pigeon Baptist Church belonged to the Newfound Association and appears in the minutes in 1871 with David Fisher as pastor and membership 55. Newfound records show Fisher as pastor in 1872-75, no records until 1878. Calvin Williams was pastor 1878-1881, 1882-83 no records, 1884 J. W. Hocker was pastor and membership.56. 1885-87 Adam Bright was pastor, 1888 J. B. Cogdill, 1889-91 E. R. Treadway.

Pigeon Baptist Church entered the Haywood Association in 1892, E. R. Treadway, pastor.

Minutes of the Haywood Association record pastors as follows: 1893 W. H. Rich, 1894-95 M. C. Compton, 1896-98 M. R. N. Caldwell, 1899-1903 D. C. Davis, 1903-06 W. M. Hall, 1907-08 D. C. Davis. It seems that E. R. Treadway served from 1908-1910. 1910-13 W. H. Hall, 1914-17 I. F. Moore, 1918-21 W. M. Hall, 1921-42 J. Y. Davis, 1943 Dock Russell, 1944-47 Forest Ferguson, 1948-49 Clarence Taylor, 1950-60 Pete Hicks,

Odie Fish became pastor in 1960 and is still pastor until 198 .

In 1967 the name was changes to WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH to identify with the community in which it is located.

Compiled by Thomas Erwin, Historian from the minutes of Newfound and Haywood Associations with assistance from Robert Fisher. (1976)



## WOODLAND

The Woodland Baptist Church was organized in 1938. The place of worship was a barn located just east of the present building. As the church grew, there was a need for more room and a more suitable building. A wooden building of one room was constructed. Later rooms for classes were added to this building. The first baptismal service after the church was organized was held July 17, 1938.

The little church was very enthusiastic and grew in influence and numbers. After several years, the need was felt for a more modern building. The congregation had overflowed the one in use. The church secured the land and constructed the present building. A group of dedicated men and women worked tirelessly and made great sacrifice to build a house of worship that would add to the spiritual development of the people.

The first additions to the church after coming to the present location were baptized May 1, 1955. The new sanctuary was completed the same year. The church continued to grow, mission giving was emphasized, mission organizations were expanded. Through great sacrifice and gifts the present building was paid for in record time and dedicated September 13, 1959.

Immediately following the note burning for the present building, the plans were begun for a pastorium. The church voted in 1960 to build and it was completed in the fall. The pastorium was built during the pastorate of John Smith.

Woodland was received into the Haywood Baptist Association August 21, 1940 with a membership of 30. The church is a cooperating Southern Baptist Church and has sent messengers to the association every year since it entered. The Association has met with Woodland in 1945, 1951, 1955, 1963 and 1974. The Sunday School enrollment in 1940 was 60.

Pastors served as follows: 1940-43 H. A. Quick, 1944 H. E. Penfield, 1945-50 Manuel Wyatt, 1951-57 Garnett W. Jameson, 1958-64 John Smith, 1965-69 Claude Conard, 1969-70 Joel Ferguson, 1971-74 Eugene Ridley, 1975-80 A. B. Hammett, 1981 Manuel Wyatt was interim, 1982- Glenn Rogers.

During 1974 Woodland built a beautiful sanctuary by the side of the old building converting it into classrooms, 1978-79 paved parking area and became debt free.





















